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Google growing in Canada with 16 job openings

INTERNET Google Canada says it's hiring in all of its offices, and has good reason to grow: Canada is more into Google than any other country.

Google has posted help-wanted ads for 16 positions in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Waterloo, Ont. The company has about 100 Canadian employees in all. Google is now looking for a new head of industry, software engineers and other staff to help take advantage of Canada's base of plugged-in Internet users, said Jonathan Lister, Google Canada's country manager and managing director.

"The fact that Canadians search twice as much as Americans, according to comScore data, is unbelievable. Canadians are searching (an average) of 143 times a month — those aren't small differences or small changes, that's a pretty significant and quite powerful difference," Lister said. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

News on the Move

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Local pg 3

Strikers push government to step in

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TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

Grade 6 students from Hillel Academy form a human clothesline to display the socks, hats, scarves and coats they, along with students from four other schools, collected over the last month for Ottawa's homeless. The clothing drive, organized by Ottawa Mission volunteer Ross Munro, will distribute the goods through the shelter.

The gift of warmth

Youth collect clothes for Mission

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

Even after hearing countless stories of the hardship of living on the streets, Ottawa Mission volunteer Ross Munro can't imagine what it would be like to be homeless in the winter.

"Even when you hear about the stuff people go through, I can't imagine what it must be like on a cold winter's night to try to find a doorway out of the wind or under a bridge to keep warm," he said.

A retired teacher from Notre Dame High School, Munro gathered all five Broadview Avenue schools — Nepean High School, Broadview Public School, Hillel Academy, Yitzhak Rabin High School and Notre Dame High School — to collect socks for the Ottawa Mission.

Students embraced the idea, and yesterday, hundreds of students gathered to show the thousands of items — including socks, underwear, hats, mitts, scarves, sweaters, coats, and items for women and children that will be distributed to other shelters — that they'd collected.

"It's gone far beyond what I expected," said Munro, who had tears in his eyes yesterday.

"When you get young people who want to contribute, you can't stop them."

He's grateful for the items, for which there is "a tremendous need."

Students really embraced the project, said Yitzhak Rabin High School principal Cynthia Bates.

"It's a really good opportunity for them to be exposed to the fact that there are people who are cold in the winter, who don't have adequate clothing," she said. "This is a chance for them to step up and do something about it."

Notre Dame teacher Vanessa Jolley said the school gathered 1,268 pieces of clothing.

The message certainly touched Notre Dame student Stephanie Roberts, 12. "Even standing out here today, people are freezing and they have coats," she said. "There are people on the streets that don't have a coat and they don't have a home."

Munro said he hopes this will become an annual event.

Obama readies to roll out new Afghan war strategy

POLITICS A number of world leaders have been personally briefed by U.S. President Barack Obama about the new Afghan war strategy he is expected to roll out tomorrow night.

But Prime Minister Stephen Harper is not one of them. Instead, Harper received a phone call from Vice-President Joe Biden late yesterday.

The prime minister has already had a number of extensive discussions on Afghanistan with the president, the most recent at the APEC summit in Singapore, Dimitri Soudas, the prime minister's spokesman said. The U.S. president "has a busy schedule," Soudas said when asked why Obama did not call Harper personally.

Obama is to outline his plans in a nationally televised address. He was expected to announce an increase of up to 35,000 more U.S. forces to defeat the Taliban-led insurgency and stabilize the Afghan government. The strategy will include laying out a path towards disengagement.

The escalation, which would take place over the next year, would put more than 100,000 American troops in Afghanistan at an annual cost of about $75 billion. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Local

Diamonds are a woman's best friend

The Ottawa Stadium Group is looking for a few good women. In May, the group will be holding tryouts for the city's first women's semi-pro baseball team, The Nine of Diamonds, at the Ottawa Stadium. The Nine of Diamonds roster will include 20 players, a field manager, pitching coach and hitting coach. The team will travel by deluxe highway coach to women's baseball hotbeds such as Washington, Boston, Chicago and Detroit. METRO OTTAWA

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News in brief

CHARGES Police have charged two Ottawa males after a 38-year-old man was robbed Saturday night. Police said the victim was on Norice Street at Woodroffe Avenue when he was followed by three males. A knife was produced and money demanded. An officer who was patrolling the area engaged in a brief foot pursuit. Two people were arrested and a knife recovered. **METRO OTTAWA**

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What's online today.

Video Footage of Romania's president allegedly punching a child has rocked the country's election campaign at **metronews.ca/world**

Blogs Sexcetera marks World AIDS Day with some sobering statistics.

Lotteries

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Santa, plum fairies set for rendezvous

Big parade's day change closes Elgin Street in front of NAC at showtime

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

Some of the city's biggest traditional holiday events are on a crash course for this Saturday evening.

Traditionally, the Ottawa Firefighters' Help Santa Toy Parade is held on Bank Street during the third weekend of November, but this year, it will run at 6 p.m. on Dec. 5 along Wellington Street from the Canadian War Museum to city hall.

"This was really an opportunity in disguise," said parade chairperson Kevin Lambert. "Because this is our 40th anniversary, we were looking to make a big bang and we're going to have that."

However, that means Elgin Street will be closed to traffic around the National Arts Centre at the same time thousands of people will be trying to get to the three events taking place inside, including the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's Nutcracker and Christmas GOOSE concert in support of the Ottawa Food Bank.

"We think the Ottawa Santa Claus Parade is a wonderful tradition," said NAC spokeswoman Rosemary Thompson, who said they had no contact with the parade until last week. "But we wish they would have given us a call in the beginning."

Thompson said the parade could have started earlier or turned right at Metcalfe Street.

Since many of the tickets for the Christmas GOOSE are sold at the door, organizer Pat Moore said she's concerned that if the roads around the NAC are closed, the concert will be a bust.

"I'm trying to mitigate the damage by getting word out to people that they should come before 7 p.m.," she said. "I'm still hopeful that something can be worked out."

Museum strikers call for federal intervention

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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After 71 days on strike, unionized workers at the Canadian War and Civilizations museums are now calling on federal politicians to intervene in the dispute.

The 420 members of the Public Service Alliance of Canada have been on strike since Sept. 21. On Nov. 26, they rejected a final contract offer from the Canadian Museum of Civilization Corporation by a margin of 96 per cent.

Yesterday, they set up their pickets on Parliament Hill to press the issue.

"After 11 weeks of being on strike, we're no further ahead than we were at the beginning and management isn't willing to negotiate," said Eric Pallotta, a project manager at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. "The only thing that will put an end to this is if the government pressures the museum to settle."

Pallotta said the union has requested arbitration, but so far, the museum corporation has rejected that option.

Since the museum corporation is a Crown corporation, the government cannot impose binding arbitration without permission from both parties.

CMCC vice-president of public affairs Chantal Schryer said the museum is still hoping for a negotiated settlement, but they are reassessing their options following the union's rejection of the final offer.

The main stumbling blocks in the dispute are over job security and contracting out.

Schryer said the museum made some concessions in both those areas in the final offer.

"It was not exactly what they wanted but addressed most of the key issues," she said. "We're hoping they would meet us halfway. Obviously that was not achieved."

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TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

Canadian Museum of Civilization guide Marie Angeline Beland, left, and Shainna Laviolette, production co-ordinator for the Canadian Museum of Civilization's resident theatre company Dramamuse, walk a picket line yesterday on Parliament Hill.

Speed of world's fastest laser 'mindboggling'

RESEARCH "An attosecond is to one second, as one second is to the age of the universe," Dr. Paul Corkum said in explaining how they measure the world's fastest laser in the new state-of-the-art Joint Laboratory for Attosecond Science.

"A nanosecond is a billionth of a second. So if you took one nano-second and divided it into a billion pieces, then you have an attosecond. It's a billionth of a billionth of a second," said Corkum, a physicist with the National Research Council and professor at the University of Ottawa. "It's almost mindboggling, isn't it?"

The technology could lead to advances in nanomachining and nanosurgery and would allow scientists to map the motion of all electrons and atoms and molecules, said Corkum.

For example, it could help explain how carcinogens affect cells and why some people develop cancer, he said.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

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More needles returned than handed out
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‘It’s a great honour’

Prominent composers awarded NAC grants

TRACEY TONG
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TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

Composer Peter Paul Koprowski, right, speaks at the announcement for the National Arts Centre Award while fellow recipient Ana Sokolovic looks on.

The National Arts Centre has awarded grants to three prominent Canadian contemporary composers to produce new music works to be performed by the NAC Orchestra over the next five years.

Yesterday, John Estacio, Peter Paul Koprowski, and Ana Sokolovic each received music commissions and residencies valued at $75,000 to each create three new music works and to teach students at the NAC’s annual Summer Music Institute.

“As Canada’s national performing arts centre, we believe that it’s important for us to take a leading role in championing Canadian talent,” said NAC president and CEO Peter Herrndorf.

Over the last 40 years, the NAC has commissioned 82 Canadian works that have toured the world.

“We see this as nation building through the arts,” said Herrndorf. “Through their imaginative work, our talented creators give voice to this country’s epic story and celebrates the spirit of its people.”

Polish-born Peter Paul Koprowski divides his time between European and North American engagements as a composer and conductor.

“I think of myself as a mid-career composer and I certainly hope the best works are still to be written,” he said. “This is a great opportunity and I am grateful to have it.”

Serbian-born Montreal resident Ana Sokolovic’s repertoire consists of works for soloists, for voice, for orchestra and several pieces of chamber music which have been performed all over the world.

“It’s a great honour and privilege for me to receive this,” said Sokolovic.

A composer-in-residence for the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, the Calgary Philharmonic, the Calgary Opera, and Pro Coro Canada, John Estacio is currently finishing his third opera, Lillian Alling, to be premiered by Vancouver Opera in 2010.

“This is one of those opportunities a musician would be mad not to seize,” he said in a statement.

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Man in critical condition after breaking into Hydro-Quebec plant

A would-be thief is in critical condition after getting electrocuted while trying to snatch copper wires from a Hydro-Quebec distribution station. Quebec provincial police say the 23-year-old was found by employees for the power utility at the Baie-Comeau plant. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Canada

Hunger striker freed

A hunger-striker accused of terrorist links has once again been ordered freed from prison under strict conditions. In a decision released Monday, Federal Court Justice Edmond Blanchard said Mohamed Zeki Mahjoub can leave a holding centre at Bath, Ont. — as long as he wears a monitoring bracelet and honours other restrictions. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Lindhout tried to escape: Firm

Canadian Amanda Lindhout's days while held captive in Somalia got darker after a foiled escape attempt in which she and a fellow hostage fled to the steps of a mosque before being recaptured, says a man hired to help negotiate her freedom.

Lindhout and Australian Nigel Brennan were held together in relative comfort before they loosened the bricks in the walls that held them early one morning in January, says John Chase of the U.K. hostage negotiation group AKE.

The two slipped out and made a dash for freedom, reaching a nearby mosque before their captors caught them again, he says.

"Some people were too scared to help them and the gang caught up with them. There was actually a story of some people trying to help them that got beaten down and they got recaptured," Chase said in an interview with The Canadian Press from London. "From that point on, things got a lot worse for them. They were shackled (and) kept in separate rooms."

Rumours were often spread by the kidnappers and others about the two journalists after they were snatched by armed gunmen by the side of the road in a lawless area south of Mogadishu in August 2008.

The pair were released last week after 15 months in captivity after a ransom was paid.

The Canadian government has refused to comment on what, if any, role it played in the release while Lindhout's parents said in a statement last week they wouldn't comment until she had time to heal. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA PHOTO

Freed hostage journalists Canadian Amanda Lindhout, left, and Australian Nigel Brennan sit together after their release from captivity in Mogadishu on Thursday.

Hostage insurance

- AKE provides training for journalists and others who venture into war-torn countries and usually works exclusively for insurance companies that cover organizations with kidnapping insurance for its workers.

Immigrants may get OK for credentials sooner

LABOUR Foreign-trained workers will be told within one year of applying whether their credentials will be accepted in Canada under a framework announced yesterday that opposition critics argued doesn't address systemic barriers to immigrants.

While the Liberals and New Democrats highlighted what they called deficiencies in the scheme, at least one stakeholder group lauded the Conservative plan on foreign credentials.

Beginning Dec. 31, 2010, foreign-trained architects, engineers, pharmacists, physio and occupational therapists and registered nurses will be among the groups that fall under the framework. Doctors and others are slated to be included in the one-year timetable by the end of 2012.

The new framework also pledges that federal, provincial, and territorial governments will strive to create better services for immigrants before they arrive in Canada and once they're in the workforce.

The governments will work with regulatory bodies, colleges and universities, and other "key partners" to make the changes happen, Ottawa said.

The one-year timetable will be difficult to fulfil because the federal government has less control than the individual provinces, said Liberal immigration critic Maurizio Bevilacqua. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Weather **Record-high November**

TONY BOCK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Flowers are still in bloom on Millwood Road in Toronto's Leaside neighbourhood. This past month marks the first time in over 160 years that it has not snowed in the city during the month of November.

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Tories blasted for saying critics in torture case don't support troops

CONTROVERSY The Harper government is once again calling in the troops in an effort to smother the public debate over the treatment of Afghan detainees.

Besieged by questions over the detainee issue for a third consecutive week, the Tories mounted an offensive yesterday, accusing their critics of maligning Canada's soldiers. That prompted an immediate opposition counter-attack.

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff called it a "disinformation campaign" and accused the government of "hiding behind our soldiers." Bloc Leader Gilles Duceppe said the Tories are pushing an argument of "astounding simplicity" that is beneath a prime minister. And NDP Leader Jack Layton accused the Conservatives of "trying to change the channel." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

News in brief

ANIMALS The OSPCA says its investigation of the Toronto Humane Society will keep the facility closed for at least another week. The OSPCA raided the humane society last Thursday and said it found animals in such poor health that seven had to be put down. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Dozens of channels viewed on demand with Rogers
Rogers launched a beta online video streaming service, with TV shows, movies and music videos on demand. But you must be a Rogers customer to use the service, and the content won't include everything you can see on prime-time TV. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Earth faces crisis: Poll

Most Canadians think climate change is the planet's defining crisis, a new poll suggests.

But the survey also indicates that nearly two-thirds of those surveyed think humans will be able to adapt to it, and about half believe the money Canada spends on climate change would be better spent on health care and national debt.

The Harris-Decima poll conducted on behalf of the Munk Debates reflects the dichotomy among Canadians who have long put environmental issues at or near the top of their concerns while balking at the economic adjustment that would be required to attain environmental goals.

The survey results also provide a vivid example of the regional differences of opinion on the environment. The belief that climate change is the Earth's defining crisis is held most strongly in Quebec and less so in the Prairies.

The poll asked Canadians if they agreed or disagreed with a resolution to be debated today during the fourth Munk Debate in Toronto, that: "Climate change is mankind's defining crisis, and demands a commensurate response."

Nearly two thirds of Canadians agreed while 31 per cent disagreed. A tiny fraction had no opinion.

"I think it shows the extent to which not just the environment, but the actual issue of climate change, has ascended up the public agenda to the point where it is reminiscent of those other big causes that have shaped a lot of Canadian history," said Rudyard Griffiths, co-organizer of the Munk Debates.

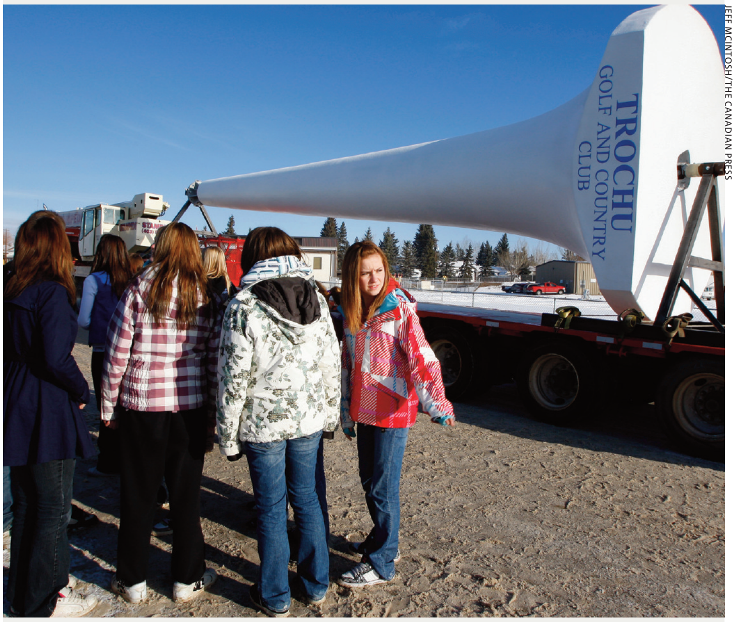
> **"It shows the extent to which ... climate change has ascended up the public agenda ."**
> Rudyard Griffiths

Across the provinces, more Quebecers and Atlantic Canadians agreed that climate change is the defining crisis,

The survey found a strong belief on both sides of the climate-change debate that there is a moral responsibility to deal with global warming now to save the planet for future generations. There was also general agreement on both sides that a warming planet threatens species and ecologies around the world with extinction. The online poll of 1,009 Canadians was conducted Nov. 12 to 15. No margin of error was provided. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

67% Polled women who agree with a resolution that "Climate change is mankind's defining crisis, and demands a commensurate response" versus 63 per cent of men.

World Record It suits Alberta residents, to a tee



JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Residents gather yesterday around the world's largest golf tee in the east central Alberta town of Truchu, 150 kilometres northeast of Calgary. The tee, 40-foot-high and made of fibreglass and metal, was donated to the community by the Alberta Treasury Branches.

Businessman denies role in Mumbai attack

BOMBING A Pakistani-born Canadian businessman is denying he had anything to do with last year's Mumbai attacks that killed 166 people.

His lawyer, Patrick Blegen, says Tahawwur Rana "categorically denies involvement in the tragic events in Mumbai of Nov. 26, 2008."

In a statement Blegen adds his client, who is scheduled to appear for a bail hearing in Chicago tomorrow, harbours no ill will against the people of India and continues to have close family ties to the country.

The FBI reportedly is probing whether Rana and American David Headley were involved in the Mumbai attacks, but neither has been charged in the bombings. The FBI alleges the two were part of a conspiracy to attack a Danish newspaper that drew the wrath of Muslims the world over in 2005 when it published cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad.

Those allegations saw Rana arrested on Oct. 18 in Chicago and charged with one count of conspiracy to provide material support to a foreign terrorism conspiracy. Blegen says in recent years Rana's career has been geared toward assisting members of the Hindu and other communities to become legalized and established in the U.S. and Canada. He says Rana has worked hard and travelled extensively to attempt to build his business, and that the Indian communities in Chicago, New York and Toronto are a testament to his hard work.

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Nazi, Soviet victims commemorated

PARLIAMENT HILL The House of Commons has declared Aug. 23 as Black Ribbon Day to commemorate victims of totalitarian Nazi and Soviet Communist regimes.

MPs gave unanimous consent yesterday to a motion proposed by Liberal Bob Rae, which would formalize a day of remembrance, which has already been adopted by some ethnic groups. The date marks the anniversary of the notorious Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939. That was the agreement in which Adolf Hitler's Nazis and Josef Stalin's Soviet Communists divvied up Poland and much of eastern Europe.

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Recession takes heat off strike

CN The recession has taken some of the sting out of a strike by Canadian National Railway locomotive engineers as transportation demand is far below where it was during a similar dispute two years ago, industry analysts said yesterday.

Individual sectors may feel the heat of a protracted strike, but fears about the impact on the overall economy have been overblown, says Brian Yarbrough of Edwards Jones.

Canada's largest rail operator is running smaller and fewer trains as shipping volumes are lower than in 2007 when it endured a two-month strike by conductors.

"It shouldn't be as big an impact as last time because the network was running with a lot more items on the rail at that time," he said in an interview.

The federal government introduced legislation yesterday that could be passed within days that would order 1,700 unionized employees back to work and send the dispute to binding arbitration. It claims the strike could have "serious repercussions" for a still-fragile national economy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Elephant herd's matriarch dies

TORONTO ZOO Officials at the Toronto Zoo say staff who worked with Tara the elephant are devastated after the animal described as the matriarch of the zoo's elephant herd died unexpectedly at age 41.

Tara was found lying down yesterday morning and staff could not get the 3,855-kilogram animal back on her feet.

They say Tara had not exhibited any recent signs of ill health, and that a post-mortem will be conducted to determine a cause of death.

The average lifespan of elephants in captivity is 40 to 45 years.

The largest of the zoo's elephants, Tara was also "the boss."

The African elephant arrived at the Toronto Zoo in 1974, shortly after it opened.

"She loved to have her face rubbed" and would lower her head to have that action done, said Eric Cole, a supervisor at the zoo.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fitness and pregnancy pays off in Manitoba

The NDP government announced it will offer tax credits to help people get fit, get pregnant and fight crime. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

RCMP officers gather at a dock yesterday on Lyall Harbour at Saturna Island, B.C.

Bodies ID'd in crash

A Vancouver doctor and her sixth-month-old baby have been identified as two of the six people killed in a float plane crash off Saturna Island on the B.C. south coast.

A California couple who were part owners of a pub on the island, a Vancouver counsellor and a White Rock, B.C., man were also on board the Seair Seaplanes flight that crashed just after taking off en route to Vancouver.

The pilot and another passenger survived the crash of the de Havilland Beaver aircraft.

The RCMP have identified the victims as 41-year-old Kerry Margaret Morrissey, her baby Sarah, 55-year-old Catherine White-Holman of Vancouver and 60-year-old Thomas Gordon Glenn of White Rock, B.C.

The two B.C. women were longtime employees of Vancouver Coastal Health, said spokeswoman Anna Marie D'Angelo.

Morrissey, who at work went by her maiden name Telford, was a doctor with the authority for more than 10 years. She had been working at the Vancouver-based South Community Birth Program. She gave birth to her second daughter, Sarah Grace Morrissey, in May.

White-Holman, a social worker, had been employed by the authority more than 15 years, with her current posting at Three Bridges Community Health Centre.

"We're very shocked and saddened by the deaths of these two very respected health-care professionals," D'Angelo said, adding colleagues were reeling yesterday at both community health centres.

Residents rushed to the scene in their boats after the plane went down around 4:30 p.m. Sunday.

There's little indication so far what brought down the plane, which has not yet been raised from its watery grave 11 metres below the ocean's surface.

Bill Yearwood of the Transportation Safety Board said investigators are hoping the pilot can tell them what went wrong. Yearwood said the pilot had undergone surgery for his injuries and was recovering in hospital.

"The RCMP has and they will make those witness statements available to us. We're hoping to speak to the pilot as soon as he is fit enough," he said yesterday.

Helicopters were still circling the harbour yesterday above where the float plane was last seen before it sank, and the RCMP vessel Higgitt was on the water.

Residents said yesterday they were numbed by the tragedy, and too distraught to even speak.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Takeoff

- The single-engine float plane went down shortly after taking off for Vancouver Sunday.

Revenge not on father's mind, court told

SCHOENBORN The man who murdered his three children denied he did it as an act of revenge against their mother, yet just days before the murders, he was convinced his ex-wife was planning to take off with a lover.

Allan Schoenborn made the statements to psychiatrist Dr. Roy O'Shaunessy in two interviews after his three children were found murdered in their Merritt, B.C., home. O'Shaunessy testified yesterday he asked Schoenborn in June 2008 how he thought the children's mother would react to the deaths of her children. "I didn't put much thought into it," he said, quoting Schoenborn from his notes. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Quebec payroll feels budget cuts

CONTRACT TALKS The Quebec government has an opening contract offer for its employees — and it's nowhere near what they are asking for.

The Charest government has offered a combined seven per cent increase in salaries and benefits over five years — which is a fraction of the unions' demand of 11.25 per cent, in salary increases alone, over three years.

Provincial employees see their contract run out next March 31, and their salaries account for more than half of the province's total budget.

Quebec has a history of long and acrimonious labour disputes with public-sector employees — particularly amid the economic turmoil of the early 1980s and the deficit-cutting era in the 1990s.

The government says its offer is worth $2.3 billion in expenses over five years, and pegs the cost of union demands at $8 billion.

Union bosses deny that figure and say their requests amount to $3.2 billion over three years.

The head of the Confederation of National Trade Unions, one of the labour groups involved, says the sides are very far apart but he calls the government offer a starting point.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Motorized bar stool involved in DUI up for sale

A motorized bar stool that got an Ohio man arrested for drunken driving goes up for auction this week on eBay. Twenty-nine-year-old Kile Wygle was charged with driving under the influence after he crashed the contraption in March in Newark, Ohio. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

World

Chelsea Clinton gets engaged

Chelsea Clinton, left, the 29-year old daughter of former president Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, has become engaged to her longtime boyfriend, investment banker Marc Mezvinsky. The couple sent an email to friends Friday announcing the news. They said they were looking at a possible wedding next summer. Matt McKenna, a spokesman for the former president, confirmed the engagement yesterday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Mujica wins Uruguay vote

Former leftist guerilla praised by neigbouring leaders

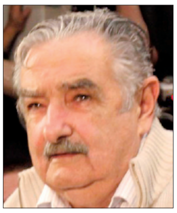
President-elect Jose Mujica retreated to his flower farm and shunned the spotlight yesterday, saying that dumping more talk on Uruguayans after a speech-filled campaign "would be like raining on what is already wet."

Congratulations poured in from across Latin America for the former guerrilla whose homespun manner and vows to govern as a conciliator persuaded his nation to trust him with its democracy.

Mujica won 53 per cent of Sunday's vote to 43 per cent for former president Luis A. Lacalle.

His victory owes much to the popularity of outgoing socialist President Tabare Vazquez, a physician whose 2005 victory ended 150 years of rule by right-wing parties or the military. Vazquez's coalition chose Mujica to run for the single-term presidency.

Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who rose from leftist union chief to govern as a centrist in neighbouring Brazil, praised his "dear friend" and predicted that Mujica will advance the cause of creating a more just society.



Jose Mujica

Ecuador's leftist President Rafael Correa said Mujica's "historic victory also represents a triumph for Uruguyan democracy and for the region."

And Mexico's conservative Felipe Calderon called Mujica to invite him to visit.

Venezuela's Hugo Chavez, however, may have touched some sore nerves with his message, praising the guerrilla past that Mujica assured Uruguayans he had put behind him.

Chavez called Mujica a symbol of leftist resistance who always fought with morality on his side and whose presence is now necessary to counter "gorilismo" — referring to right-wing coup plotters in Latin America.

Chavez went on to laud the militance of the National Liberation Movement-Tupamaros, the movement that Mujica helped found in the 1960s and that carried out bombings, kidnappings and robberies to overthrow elected governments of the time.

During the campaign, Mujica repeatedly denied that he would hijack Uruguay's stable parliamentary democracy and install a radical socialist state modeled on Chavez's in Venezuela. He insisted that he's inspired instead by Silva's performance as president. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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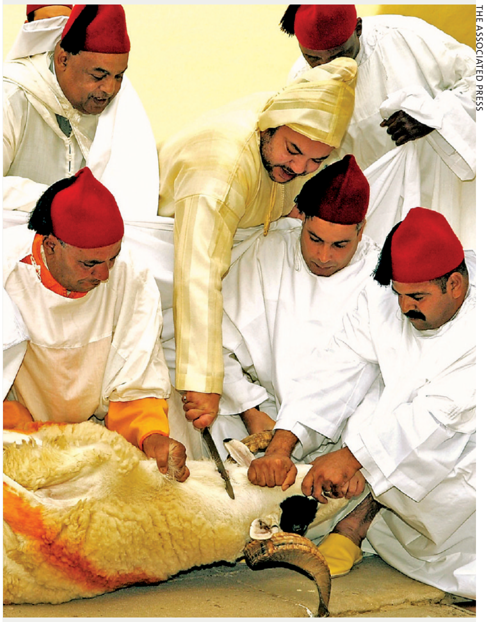
Morocco **King slays a sheep**



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Morocco's King Mohammed VI, centre, slays a sheep in accordance with Muslim tradition for the Eid al-Adha feast, in Fez, Morocco, on Saturday. Eid al-Adha is a holiday celebrated by Muslims to commemorate the willingness of Abraham to sacrifice his son as an act of obedience to God.

Trial starts in Nazi death camp case

MUNICH A German court put John Demjanjuk on trial yesterday to face charges of being an accessory to the murder of 27,900 Jews at a Nazi death camp, and his lawyer immediately accused the court of bias.

The 89-year-old retired Ohio autoworker arrived at the opening of the trial in a wheelchair to face the final chapter of some 30 years of efforts to prosecute him, wearing a navy baseball cap and covered in a light blue blanket.

Demjanjuk was deported in May from the United States to Germany, and has been in custody since then. He could face up to 15 years in prison if convicted.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hunt on for suspect in cop shooting

WASHINGTON A special tactics police team stormed a house yesterday where they thought they had cornered for hours a man suspected of killing four police officers at a coffee shop, only to find that he wasn't there.

The discovery added new urgency to the manhunt for Maurice Clemmons as police canvassed the neighbourhood with search dogs and hundreds of officers were deployed around Seattle for any sign of the suspect. Authorities put up a $125,000 reward for information leading to his arrest.

Police had been positioned overnight at a Seattle home where they thought Clemmons was holed up and spent hours trying to communicate with him, using loudspeakers, explosions and even a robot sent into the house. But when the SWAT team went inside, he was nowhere to be found.

Pierce County sheriff's spokesman Ed Troyer said the location of Clemmons was not known, and it's possible he still could be in the neighbourhood. Troyer also said people who know Clemmons told investigators he had been shot in the torso in his bloody struggle with the officers.

"If he didn't get a ride out of there, he could still be in the area," Troyer said.

Troyer said warrants for first-degree murder have been issued against Clemmons in the killings of the officers from the Tacoma suburb of Lakewood who were gunned down in a coffee shop on Sunday morning at the start of their shifts.

Clemmons has a long criminal history, including a long prison sentence commuted by former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee nearly a decade ago, and a recent arrest for allegedly assaulting a police officer in Washington state.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Victims

- Authorities allege Maurice Clemmons killed Sgt. Mark Renninger, 39, and officers Ronald Owens, 37, Tina Griswold, 40, and Greg Richards, 42, as they worked on their laptop computers at the beginning of their shifts.

Three arrests made for 'Kick a Ginger Day' prank

BULLYING Three boys were booked on suspicion of bullying or kicking red-haired students at a California middle school when a "Kick a Ginger Day" prank inspired by a South Park episode got out of hand, authorities said yesterday.

A 13-year-old boy was detained last week for investigation of threatening to inflict injury by means of electronic communication — essentially, cyberbullying. Two 12-year-olds were booked for battery on school property, Los Angeles County sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore said.

The three suspects, whose identities were not released because of their ages, were released to their parents. They could face misdemeanour charges, but it was unclear when the case might be submitted for possible prosecution, Whitmore said.

Four girls and three boys reported that schoolmates shoved or kicked them on Nov. 20 at A.E. Wright Middle School in Calabasas, an affluent suburb of Los Angeles.

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Police nab alleged Christmas-hating thief

Ohio police have arrested a man who they say swiped a Salvation Army holiday fundraising kettle full of donated money, saying he hated Christmas. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Flu hype enters court

Parents can't agree on whether daughter should get vaccine

Flu **Outbreak**

An estranged couple whose case was in family court yesterday may be on the cutting edge of marital disputes. The issue: Whether their healthy, school-age daughter will be given the swine flu vaccine.

Dad says yes; Mom says no. Barring a last-minute agreement, a judge on the island of Jersey will decide.

"I have independently researched the vaccine and I am not convinced it is proved safe," the child's mother told The Associated Press. "I feel it has been rushed through so quickly, under extreme circumstances, and I don't want my daughter exposed to it unless there are long-term studies."

The mother, whose name cannot be released for legal reasons, said she is worried about possible long-range health problems that may develop far in the future, but she said her former partner insists their nine-year-old daughter get the vaccine, which is being offered to Jersey children on a voluntary basis.

The swine flu vaccine question is relatively new, but lawyers and psychologists say it is common for couples to have strong disagreements on health-care issues.

"In my professional experience, this happens very often," said psychologist Caroline Schuster, who practises in England.

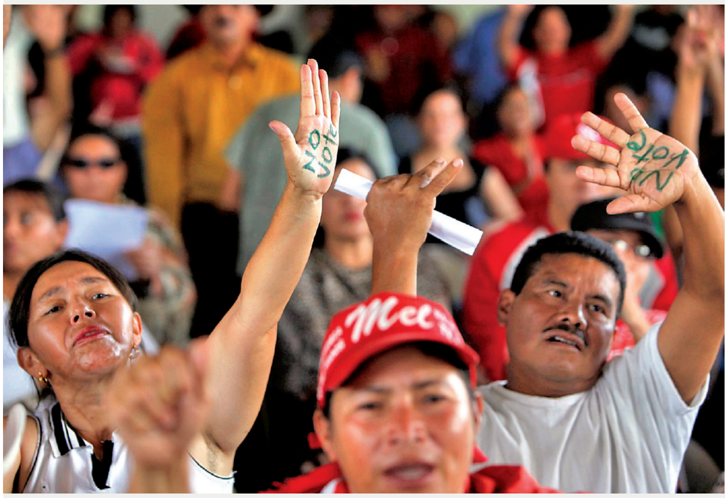
"Couples regularly disagree on which is the best medical way forward."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Safety first

- WHO officials insist the vaccine, which was rushed into production, is safe, including for children. Top WHO flu expert Keiji Fukuda said last week that about 40 countries have given at least 100 million doses of swine flu vaccine and that no unusual safety problems have been identified.

Honduras 'Don't vote'



ESTEBAN FELIX/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Supporters of Honduras' ousted President Manuel Zelaya show their hands with the words in Spanish "Don't vote" in Tegucigalpa, yesterday. Many Western Hemisphere countries are refusing to recognize Honduras' newly elected President Porfirio Lobo because of a coup earlier this year. The U.S. government recognized the elections' results.

Police release sketch of possible suspect in Russian train bombing

ATTACK Police released a composite sketch yesterday of a man thought to be involved in a train bombing that killed 26 people, and a railway official suggested the attack had the hallmarks of terrorists from the volatile North Caucasus.

Authorities say Friday night's derailment of a train speeding from Moscow to St. Petersburg was caused by a bomb planted on the tracks. The blast gouged out a 1.5 metre crater and sent the final three carriages of the 14-car Nevsky Express hurtling off the rails. A second explosive device partially detonated at the crash site Saturday as railway workers were clearing debris.

Terrorism has been a major concern in Russia since the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union, as Chechen rebels have clashed with government forces in two wars and Islamist separatists continue to target law enforcement officials.

A high-level official of the state-run railroad company official suggested militants from North Caucasus were likely behind the attack, citing the second explosion that he said was a hallmark of the insurgents. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

British PM to send 500 troops to Afghanistan

WAR British Prime Minister Gordon Brown said yesterday that 500 extra U.K. troops will arrive in southern Afghanistan next month, ahead of video conference talks with President Barack Obama on U.S. plans to send reinforcements.

Brown said that additional British forces will arrive early next month in Afghanistan's Helmand province, increasing Britain's troop numbers in Afghanistan to about 10,000 troops.

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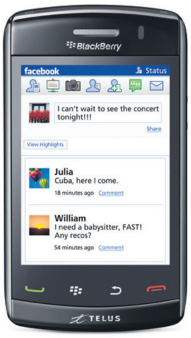

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Comment

Playing the demagogic patriot game

NationalReport

Lawrence Martin

metronews.ca/nationalreport

One of the leading rules of politics is to keep it simple. Reduce complex issues down to elementary terms that all earthlings, no matter what their degree of cranial endowment, can understand.

American Republicans have been especially good at this tactic. Most notably on the subject of the military they have often played the patriot card effectively. Ronald Reagan made a career out of it.

This may help explain why the Harper Conservatives have been going that route on the Afghan detainee file. Their pitch? If you believe diplomat Richard Colvin on detainee torture, you're either a Taliban supporter or guilty of not supporting our troops.

This line of reasoning, they must know, is intellectually infantile. The Tories have no monopoly on patriotism. Opposition MPs are vocal supporters of the military.

In any case, no one is above criticism, not even people in uniform. That kind of immunity is fine for dictatorships, not for this country. Military men and women are human, make mistakes like everybody else and should be subject to questions like everyone else.

But this didn't stop Stephen Harper from telling naval officers in Port of Spain on Sunday that some in the political arena have been "throwing the most serious of allegations at our men and women in uniform based on the most flimsy of evidence." Despite these ingrates, he said, Canadians "are proud of you and stand behind you and I am proud of you and I stand behind you."

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff was quick, as he should have been, to hit back, saying the innuendo suggesting Liberals were not behind the forces was beneath the office of the prime minister.

What the Tories are doing with their militarization of the country, said Keith Martin, the Liberal MP who used to sit with the Alliance party, is build the military men into heroes and then demolish anyone who dares breathe an unfavourable word.

On the detainees question we don't know which side is correct. The Conservatives are hunkering down. They are not releasing results of Canadian military police investigations in Afghanistan. They've stonewalled the Canadian Military Police Complaints Commission on the issue. They declare important correspondence off limits because of national security.

This gives the impression they have something to hide on this file. It may well be the reason why they are playing their demagogic patriot game. It's the best card they've got.

Lawrence Martin is a journalist and author of 10 books who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

Views

Why gold might not pan out in long term

InBusiness

Charles Davies

metronews.ca/inbusiness

Gold frenzies are great for journalists because they provide lots of colour, and I'm not just talking about bullion's natural lustre.

In 1980, when gold was heading for $850 US an ounce, small investors panicked at the thought of rampant inflation following the second OPEC oil price shock. Like today's flu shot seekers, they formed long lines to buy one-ounce gold wafers as a financial immunization against future uncertainty.

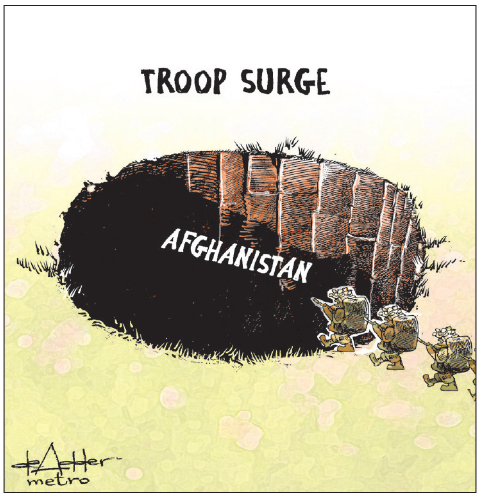
This time around, the fear is playing out differently. Investors small and large are buying gold all right — they've driven its value up more than 30 per cent this year to slightly less than $1,200 US an ounce.

These days gold has a lot going for it, starting with the worldwide uncertainty based on the faltering U.S. economy and dollar.

But enthusiasts who aren't hard-core gold bugs should remember that the price of this most precious of metals won't always outperform other investments, chiefly stocks. Historically, these two asset classes seem to alternate as investor favourites, with stocks rising when gold is in relative decline and vice versa.

For verification, check the record of the Dow/Gold Ratio — the ratio of the Dow Jones Industrial Average index divided by the price of an ounce of gold. In the short and sometimes medium term, you might be better off investing in one rather than the other. Yet sensible investors will make a habit of diversifying, making gold or gold equivalents part of a balanced portfolio that, over the course of a lifetime, will provide solid growth and sound slumber.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer who has worked for Canadian and international news organizations.



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N.S. power gets go-ahead for wind farm
Nova Scotia Power has been given in the go-ahead to build a $120-million wind farm in Colchester County. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Economy makes third-quarter gains

Growth still under Bank of Canada's predictions

Canada's economy inched ahead in the third quarter, meekly heralding an end to the recession and the start of what is predicted to be slow and laborious recovery.

Statistics Canada reported yesterday that real gross domestic product, an inflation-adjusted measure of the economic growth, expanded at an annualized rate of 0.4 per cent in the third quarter. That was below the Bank of Canada's two per cent growth prediction for the quarter, and economist's expectations for an annualized growth rate of 0.6 per cent, according to CIBC World Markets.

The first overall economic growth in a year marks an end to the recession, which is defined as at least two back-to-back quarters of contraction. By comparison, the American economy registered growth of 2.8 per cent during the same period, the agency said.

"We've certainly been slowest out of the gate to economic recovery relative to most of the other major economies," said Avery Shenfeld, chief economist at CIBC World Markets.

"The only plus side here, is that the third quarter ended on a strong note with a healthy GDP gain in September, and that does give us hope that we'll see much better growth for the fourth quarter."

Real GDP — economic growth adjusted for inflation — was up 0.4 per cent in September, the final month of the quarter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Demand

- The agency said final domestic demand advanced 1.2 per cent during the quarter, as capital investment and personal spending both increased.

Dubai Fallout concerns

KAMRAN JEBREILI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Burj Dubai, the worlds tallest building is seen in the background in the Business Bay district in Dubai, United Arab Emirates yesterday. Concerns about the fallout from the debt crisis in Dubai limited gains on the Toronto stock market.

Forum to be held on TV's future

BROADCASTING Canadians are getting a chance to share their views about the future of television on a special government website set up by the federal broadcast regulator.

The CRTC is looking at various options to determine the value of TV signals, a bone of contention between conventional television broadcasters and the cable and satellite companies that distribute their signals.

The two sides of the argument have waged a high-profile advertising campaign for weeks against each other.

But the high-stakes battle has been waged at the regulatory and political level for years, with each side claiming they have Canadians' best interests at heart. The broadcasters say local television programming could die in Canada. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Business in brief

POWER DEAL New Brunswick's Conservative Opposition Leader is asking Quebec Premier Jean Charest to hold off finalizing the proposed acquisition of NB Power. In the letter, David Alward asks Charest not to finalize the deal until there's a referendum in New Brunswick on the issue or the provincial election in September. Alward has repeatedly asked Premier Shawn Graham to do the same, to no avail.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Kuwait..........6.9 ¢	Saudi Arabia from ... 3.9 ¢
Lebanon .... 9.9 ¢	South Korea.. 2.9 ¢
Libya.............24.9 ¢	Sri Lanka......11.9 ¢
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Donating shares to charity

MoneyMatters

Henry Choo Chong

metronews.ca/moneymatters

Q Is it more advantageous to sell shares and use the funds to make a donation or donate the shares directly to charity? How much capital gains tax will I pay?

— Daren

A Sell shares and donate the money: You will receive a 15 per cent tax credit on the first $200 and 29 per cent on the amounts above that. The sale of shares will be subject to tax on 50 per cent of the capital gain.

Donate shares directly to charity: The 2006 federal budget eliminated the income-inclusion rate for donations of listed publicly traded shares and therefore your capital gains and tax is nil. Additionally, you can also claim the tax credit. This is a triple benefit. You pay no tax on the appreciated value of your shares, get a tax credit and give to a good cause.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, can be reached at choochonghcga@yahoo.ca.

Cross-border bargains?

AlisonOnMoney

Alison Griffiths

metronews.ca/alisononmoney

After eyeing my daughter's Mac with envy for the past year, I decided to buy one of Mr. Job's fun machines. But once I crunched the numbers it cost me $82 less to buy it here than in the U.S.

Still, countless Canadians stampeded south this past weekend as U.S. retailers hacked at prices like gladiators determined to be the last man standing. Bargains do abound for canny shoppers but you have to know your prices, do some research and be disciplined.

For example, on Black Friday last week, Best Buy in the States was offering a door buster price of $999 US on a Samsung 46" LCD HDTV. Nice. In Canada the best price I could find was $1,399 US — $1,581 Cdn after taxes.

Let's assume you were tempted by the siren call of deep discounts in the States and bought that TV. The landed-in-Canada price ends up at $1,342 Cdn including GST, exchange, gas, tolls and lunch. (There's no duty on this TV but you'd pay three per cent to five per cent if it had been a plasma model.) That's a savings of $239, give or take. Not bad. But the price assumes you got the door crasher special which was limited to lucky ticket holders.

Many cross-border shoppers fall victim to impulse. "I drove all this way so I can't go back home with just a pair of socks!"

Impulse is deadly if you don't know your tariffs. Clothing made outside the U.S. is subject to as much as 20 per cent duty. Ouch! Downhill ski boots can come home duty free but cross country ski boots could set you back 18 per cent depending on where they were made.

Check with customs at 1-800-461-9999 for tariff rates and don't forget that you pay GST on all goods after duty has been applied and it is based on the value of the item in Canadian dollars.

Alison Griffiths is a financial journalist, author and host of Maxed Out on the W Network. Write to her at alison@alisongriffiths.ca.

SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS, LISA KRANTZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canny shoppers can find bargains in the U.S. but you have to know your prices and what duties you would have to pay.

Alison's Money Rule:

- Cross border shopping can yield significant savings at this time of year but you'll only harvest the bargains if you are disciplined and do your homework.

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Blips are buying opportunities

Investing

Allan Small

metronews.ca/investing

Dubai sneezes and the world catches a cold! Countries today are so close with each other that even if a smaller place like Dubai has a problem with their debt, it can affect stock markets all around the world.

Investors once again have called into question the strength and stability of the world's markets. The worry being that if Dubai has to default on their debts with major international banks, could this trigger another major financial meltdown?

These types of world crisis, that spring up on a regular basis and spook the international community needs to be looked at differently than if you had a major crisis close to home. Investors should ask themselves, is this the type of crisis that can linger on for a longer period of time, or is this a one-time event that will gradually work itself out. If this is more of a one-time event that will work itself out in a short period of time then pullbacks in the stock market due to something like the Dubai announcement should be looked at as a buying opportunity. Many sectors of the market that have very little to do with Dubai seemed to sell off in sympathy with the overall negative tone. These sectors are now possibly a lot cheaper than before the crisis hit and thus a great time to buy!

In my opinion, I would use any short term pullback in the market like the pullback just experienced from the Dubai debt issue as a buying opportunity. A small correction like this should always be anticipated. If you own good quality investments, your portfolio should be able to withstand these short term blips on its way to bigger gains in the future!

Allan Small can be reached at asmall@dundeesecurities.com The views expressed are not necessarily those of Dundee Securities

Welcome to Dubai Financial Market

KAMRAN JEBREILI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Good quality investments should be able to withstand short-term blips like that triggered by Dubai's debt problem.

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†Value based on Sears retail prices.

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Notre Dame sacks coach

Notre Dame fired football coach Charlie Weis, left, yesterday after a string of disappointing seasons that was capped by an agonizing four-game losing streak. Notre Dame will be looking for its fifth coach this decade. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Sports

Are Habs Canada's team?

Canada's oldest hockey team is also this country's most revered, according to a new poll released yesterday in celebration of the Montreal Canadiens' 100th anniversary. A third of respondents named the Habs when asked to identify 'Canada's team,' compared with a quarter who said the same for their archrival Toronto Maple Leafs. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Rider fans not angry, but heartbroken

Rider pride was bruised, but still very much alive yesterday as Saskatchewan football fans welcomed their team home following a stunning Grey Cup loss to the Montreal Alouettes.

More than 800 fans clad in green and white waited under grey skies for the Roughriders to appear at Mosaic Stadium in Regina. They waved signs that said "Win or Lose Always No. 1 in our Hearts" and cheered wildly as the players made a brief appearance.

"Aw, man, I just can't put into words how much this means to me and this team for the support that you guys have shown today," quarterback Darian Durant told the crowd.

Durant said the team will get past the loss and make it to the Canadian Football League championship again soon.

"I was always told that success is a journey not a destination and we're well on our way," he said in a brief speech. "You better believe that we'll be back next year and the year after and the year after. We're here for the long run and get used to seeing the green and white at Grey Cups every year."

TROY FLEECE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Saskatchewan Roughriders fans hold up signs at Mosaic Stadium in Regina yesterday in a cheering crowd who were on hand to welcome the team back from Calgary.

The notoriously rabid Rider fans erupted into cheers. It was a similar scene to one played out at Mosaic Stadium after Saskatchewan won the Grey Cup in 2007.

Durant told reporters afterwards that the fan support was overwhelming.

"I didn't expect this at all," he said. "I remember how it was when we won in '07 and this is the same thing so it's a great, great thing."

The Alouettes edged the Riders 28-27 on a field goal after Saskatchewan was penalized for too many players on the field.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Grey Cup sets ratings record

VIEWERS A record TV audience watched the Saskatchewan Roughriders blow the Grey Cup.

Citing preliminary figures, TSN says a combined 6.1 million viewers on TSN and its sister French station RDS watched the Montreal Alouettes' 28-27 win Sunday night in Calgary.

More than 14 million Canadians, or nearly 43 per cent of the population, watched the game in whole or in part. And 8.35 million viewers were tuned in when Montreal kicked the winning field-goal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NFL Monday night showdown

PATRICK SEMANSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Orleans Saints Devery Henderson can't handle a pass while being defended by New England Patriots Brandon Meriweather last night in New Orleans. For a complete game report, visit metronews.ca/sports.

SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Buffalo 3 Toronto 1
Pittsburgh 5 N.Y. Rangers 2
Atlanta 4 Florida 3
Washington 3 Carolina 2
Columbus 5 St. Louis 2
Colorado 3 Tampa Bay 0
Detroit 4 Dallas 1
Calgary 5 Nashville 0

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Milwaukee 99 Chicago 97
Philadelphia at Dallas
Memphis at Utah
Indiana at Golden State

Sports in brief

NHL Washington Capitals star Alex Ovechkin left last night's game at Carolina in the opening period with an apparent right knee injury. Ovechkin was injured with 7:55 left in the first period. He appeared to initiate a knee-to-knee collision with Carolina's Tim Gleason as the defenceman attempted to take the puck out of the Hurricanes' zone.

TENNIS Serena Williams was fined a record $82,500 US for her U.S. Open tirade and could be suspended from that tournament if she has another "major offence" at any Grand Slam in the next two years.

NBA Allen Iverson and the Philadelphia 76ers have met to discuss a possible return to the team. Team president Ed Stefanski said in a statement that both parties remain noncommittal about a final decision after a nearly two-hour meeting yesterday in Dallas.

NFL Arizona quarterback Kurt Warner says he plans to see an opthamologist about lingering post-concussion symptoms that kept him out of Sunday's 20-17 loss at Tennessee. Warner says he's having hard-to-describe issues with his eyes.

NFL The NFL is not switching the Denver at Indianapolis game on Dec. 13 to prime time even though it could be the Colts' record-setting 22nd straight regular-season victory. Instead, the Philadelphia Eagles-New York Giants matchup remains as the night game.

SOCCER Ireland has asked FIFA to be allowed into the World Cup as a 33rd team after Thierry Henry's handball helped France eliminate the Irish in a playoff. FIFA president Sepp Blatter revealed yesterday that the Irish had written to football's world governing body asking to be let into the 2010 tournament in South Africa because of Henry's handball.

NFL New York Jets rookie quarterback Mark Sanchez was limited during the team's light practice yesterday with a sore left knee, but should play against the Buffalo Bills in Toronto on Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Panthers' Beason arrested for strip club scuffle

Carolina Panthers Pro Bowl middle linebacker Jon Beason was arrested yesterday and charged with punching a man at a strip club. Beason was booked on a misdemeanour assault charge yesterday afternoon and released on a written promise to appear in court. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Steelers showing cracks in armour

During the few rough patches the Pittsburgh Steelers encountered while winning the Super Bowl last season, they emphasized their camaraderie and selflessness pushed them through the tough times and set them apart from most teams.

Linebacker James Farrior said they were more like a family than a football team. Players campaigned for teammates — not themselves — to make the Pro Bowl. The team's season highlight film was called Brothers and Champions.

LARRY FRENCH/GETTY IMAGES

Baltimore's Willis McGahee, centre, scores the Ravens first touchdown against the Pittsburgh Steelers at M&T Bank Stadium on Sunday in Baltimore, Md. Baltimore won 20-17 in overtime.

A season later, the Steelers' much-admired team unity is being tested by a three-game losing streak and the unexpected decision to sit quarterback Ben Roethlisberger hours before one of their biggest games all season.

The Steelers (6-5), drooping after two overtime losses in as many weeks, admittedly are a desperate team. The next 10 days might tell them if they're a divided team, too.

Among the many problems is rarely-seen-in-public infighting.

The Steelers' players were stunned and unhappy upon learning that Roethlisberger wouldn't play in the 20-17 overtime loss in Baltimore on Sunday night because of post-concussion headaches.

Wide receivers Hines Ward and Santonio Holmes suggested Roethlisberger was letting the Steelers down by forcing them to play the inexperienced Dennis Dixon in a critical game with limited preparation.

Ward: "This game is almost like a playoff game. It's almost a must-win. I could see some players or teammates questioning, like, 'It's just a concussion. I've played with a concussion before.'"

Holmes: "We would have liked for him to play. If he had the opportunity, he should have played for us, but he didn't. And we didn't get the job done."

Afterward, coach Mike Tomlin explained the last-minute decision wasn't made by Roethlisberger, as some players apparently thought, but was made by the team following a recommendation by neurologist Joseph Maroon.

Still, this is the first time Roethlisberger has been so harshly rebuked in public by a teammate, and it comes just as the Steelers are trying to save their season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bills prepare for Toronto

NFL From Ottawa to the first verse of O Canada, Buffalo Bills punter Brian Moorman had practically all the answers yesterday while delivering a Canadian pop quiz to his teammates after practice.

Moorman was filming a segment to be broadcast on his weekly local television show in preparation for the Bills' second annual game in Toronto on Thursday, when Buffalo is the "home" team against the New York Jets.

Moorman did face one question that even he couldn't answer: Will the Bills get a warmer reception than last year in their home away from home?

Last year in Toronto, a large contingent of Dolphins fans showed up to cheer Miami to a 16-3 win. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Everything rosy with Favre and Vikings head coach Childress

UNITY Brett Favre has been throwing the ball for the Minnesota Vikings much more than he thought he would.

Another surprising development? Coach Brad Childress is encouraging it.

When Childress and the Vikings finally persuaded Favre to sign with them, many fans and analysts skeptically predicted injuries and interceptions — and butting heads. How was the cautious coach with a preference for flat-line emotions and making the safe throw going to fit with Favre, one of the all-time great free-stylers?

Well, perceptions are often exaggerated. And people change.

Favre didn't have first-hand experience with the before version of Childress, but he echoed the sentiment of his teammates after the coach's contract was extended that Childress has become more willing to listen to input from his players.

"Guys go up, 'Hey, I can beat him on a post. We can run over here,'" Favre said.

"He's open to that. I think as a head coach the give-and-take has to be there, especially with a veteran team like we have here."

> **"I think as a head coach the give-and-take has to be there, especially with a veteran team like we have here."**
> Vikings QB Brett Favre

"Any professional you ever find that's worth his salt can take coaching," Childress said, adding: "Brett's been tremendous that way."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Feels like something special is happening'

HISTORY? A defender tips Vince Young's pass at the line, sending it into the air. Titans tight end Bo Scaife beats an opponent to the ball and runs upfield for a 19-yard catch that keeps Tennessee's stunning final drive alive.

Amazing? Yes. Historic? With each win, the Titans extend their NFL mark for consecutive victories after an 0-6 start. With five straight wins, they are halfway to Chris Johnson's prediction of finishing the regular season with 10 straight wins after Sunday's 20-17 win over Arizona.

Lucky? Some Titans are believers.

"Feels like something special is happening," defensive end Kyle Vanden Bosch said.

Young said they have to buy into that idea — plus he also thinks these Titans are getting some heavenly help from the late Steve McNair, Young's mentor and the franchise's all-time winningest quarterback.

WADE PAYNE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennessee Titans wide receiver Kenny Britt, left, celebrates with Lavelle Hawkins after Britt caught a 10-yard touchdown pass in the final moments against the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday in Nashville, Tenn. The Titans won 20-17.

"All the love to Steve McNair up top. I know he's watching and sending down love to us," Young said.

Coach Jeff Fisher credits a combination for this current streak that includes improved play and a healthy secondary, leading to stingier defence and confidence.

"We're getting the things we didn't get the first six weeks. We're getting bounces. We're getting deflections. We're making plays. We're making our own breaks to a certain extent. Then there are some other things that happen. When those things happen, it certainly makes it easier," Fisher said.

Catching a tipped ball is one thing. Those looking for omens can find some encouragement. The 99-yard kickoff return for a touchdown Sunday was the first against Tennessee since 1999 — the season the Titans reached their lone Super Bowl. The 18-play drive for the winning score Sunday was the longest TD drive since a 2002 win at the New York Giants, a season the Titans started 1-4 and reached the AFC championship game.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Disgraced sprinter plans to join WNBA
Disgraced track star Marion Jones is training for a comeback — in the WNBA. San Antonio Silver Stars coach Dan Hughes confirmed Monday night that Jones has been training with his assistants to possibly play in the WNBA. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

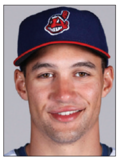
Sizemore tries to stop spread of racy photos

Major League Baseball officials have asked Internet sites to remove racy photographs of Indians centre fielder Grady Sizemore.

Sizemore said the photos — one of them showing him nearly nude — were stolen from his girlfriend's email account and posted online. He contacted baseball officials to stop the spread of the photos, which began appearing Sunday on various websites.

It is not known how many sites are complying with MLB's request. At least one site, deadspin.com, is refusing to take the photos down.

"There's no reason to," editor A.J. Daulerio said Monday. "They were up other places already."


Grady Sizemore

Daulerio said the photos originated on a community message board and were forwarded to his site, which is also displaying a letter from an MLB official requesting the photos be removed.

The letter reads: "The photos posted in the article cited below are the property of Grady Sizemore. They were stolen from a personal computer. We've begun an investigation and request that you immediately remove Mr. Sizemore's property from the posting. We also ask that you preserve any records associated with its submission in anticipation of a criminal complaint to be filed with local law enforcement."

MLB investigators are trying to determine how many sites ran the photos of Sizemore standing in front of a bathroom mirror in various stages of undress. Sizemore used a cellphone to take the pictures of himself. He told The Plain Dealer of Cleveland they were intended only for his girlfriend.

The Indians said Sizemore wouldn't make any further comment on the photos.

"We fully support Grady as he deals with this personal matter," the Indians said in a statement Monday. "The posted photos were stolen from his girlfriend's email account and a legal investigation is under way."

The 27-year-old Sizemore is the Indians' most popular player. His fan base includes "Grady's Ladies," and several other women's groups devoted to the three-time All-Star. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Average baseball salary nears $3M

MLB The average baseball salary fell just short of $3 million US this year, with the percentage increase slowing to its lowest level since 2004.

The 926 players in the major leagues before rosters expanded in September averaged $2,996,000, according to the annual report of the players' association, which was obtained yesterday by The Associated Press.

That is up just 2.4 per cent from last year's average of $2.93 million. The increase had not been that small since a 2.5 per cent drop in 2004.

The World Series champion Yankees had by far the highest average at $7.66 million, topping the major leagues for the 11th consecutive season.

Six teams among the top eight by average salary made the post-season, joined by Colorado (15th at $2.93 million) and Minnesota (17th at $2.66 million). The Rockies and Twins were both eliminated in the first round.

Pittsburgh was last at $790,000, the lowest average in the major leagues since 2006. San Diego, at $959,000, was the only other team whose players averaged less than $1 million. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Health & Beauty

EDITOR: JENNIFER.PRITTIE@METRONEWS.CA

The problems with plan B

HIV/AIDS drugs aren't the safety net young people think they are

AJIT SOLANKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

People hold lamps as they participate in an AIDS awareness campaign at Nal Sarovar bird sanctuary, about 75 kilometres from Ahmadabad, India. World AIDS day will be marked today to increase awareness of the sexually transmitted, fatal disease.

CELIA MILNE
for Metro Canada

Message to young, sexually-active people: Don't get lax about HIV/AIDS. Although it doesn't kill as quickly as it used to, it'll hasten illness and aging.

"For the young, active person in a large urban centre, the disease is still out there and still growing," says Dr. Ann Stewart, medical director of Casey House in Toronto.

"There's a common perception among the younger crowd that if they get it they'll go on meds. Yes, the medications are miraculous and they've brought people back from the brink. But they have complications. It is still a big experiment."

Someone who is HIV positive and has been on a drug cocktail for 10-15 years may develop complications of aging similar to a person over age 65, says Stewart.

This phenomenon is known as "the greying of HIV/AIDS."

Before the advent of anti-retroviral drug cocktails, people who developed HIV/AIDS were often dead within 10 years, she says.

Nowadays they can live more than twice that long. Indeed, some of the earliest HIV/AIDS patients from the early 1980s are still alive.

"They can survive the opportunistic infections, wasting, and pneumonia associated with AIDS, but they are at higher risk for other chronic illnesses such as cardiovascular disease, high cholesterol, diabetes, and lung cancer," says Stewart.

Other diseases that occur earlier in the HIV/AIDS population are many different cancers, kidney disease, osteoarthritis, chronic pain, dementia and depression.

The medications are a blessing and a curse, she says, because people on drug cocktails living with HIV/AIDS get more illnesses and therefore need more medications to treat the subsequent illnesses. "The number of pills creeps up and up," says Stewart.

A huge majority of Canadians living with HIV (81.8 per cent) live in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.

Nearly half (44 per cent) of all cases are in Ontario. Quebec accounts for 22.5 per cent of cases; 20 per cent are from B.C. and 1.1 per cent are from Nova Scotia.

Heavier rates of infection are now being seen in Aboriginal peoples.

It's not safe to think of HIV/AIDS as the "gay man's disease." Now, almost one third of new cases are in people who acquired the virus through heterosexual sex, according to a spokesperson from Casey House. Women account for about a quarter of all cases. And remember: a quarter of people who are HIV positive don't know they have it, meaning that they could unknowingly transmit it.

"This is not a disease you want to get. Practice safe sex by using a condom and always ask your partner whether they have been exposed," suggests Stewart.

> **"There's a common perception among the younger crowd that if they get (HIV/AIDS) they'll go on meds. Yes, the medications are miraculous and they've brought people back from the brink. But they have complications. It is still a big experiment."**
> Dr. Ann Stewart, medical director, Casey House

For tips to help you stay well during cold & flu season, visit gethalls.ca.

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Sun, snowbirds and HIV

Few want to admit seniors are an at-risk group

The **J** Spot

Josey Vogels

metronews.ca/thejspot

JOHN MEYER

We may not want to think about what grandpa's really getting up to during his winters in Florida, but as columnist Josey Vogels notes, society can't encourage seniors to have safe sex until we acknowledge that they're still having sex.

New research out of the University of Waterloo indicates that Canadian snowbirds may be doing more than playing canasta when they winter in Florida.

Speaking at a recent AIDS conference in Toronto, gerontology researcher Katie Mairs said that people aged 50 and over account for a growing percentage of HIV cases in Florida, yet few older Canadians who winter in the state take precautions against sexually transmitted infections.

I'm not so surprised. This is a generation that didn't grow up with AIDS. They weren't raised on safer sex messages and probably never rolled a condom onto a banana in their lives.

Yet, here you've got a bunch of retired, elderly folk — many of whom are divorced or widowed and therefore single — with plenty of time on their hands, hanging out with each other in the warm, Florida sunshine. They don't call them "active" retirement communities for nothing.

Unfortunately, in large part because our society prefers to think that sexuality drops off the face of the earth the moment you get a grey hair, the problem isn't getting addressed.

Research has shown that safer sex education works best when targeted to specific at-risk populations. And even then, the results aren't that great. According to a 2005 Canadian Community Health Survey, condom use among those aged 20-24 averages about 50-60 percent. And they've no doubt been rolling condoms onto bananas since puberty.

> **"This is a generation that didn't grow up with AIDS. They weren't raised on safer sex messages and probably never rolled a condom onto a banana in their lives."**

In order to address rising HIV rates among the elderly, we need to start by first admitting that old people have sex and may even be having it with multiple partners, as the University of Waterloo research indicates.

Then we need to start talking to them. Sex educators I know are trying to make inroads to these communities and some administrators in seniors' homes and retirement communities are starting to recognize and address the issue.

But they still face resistance, both from administrations who don't want to accept, much less address, the fact that their residents might be sexual; and from family members who'd rather not think about whether grandma or grandpa are still doing it, thank you very much.

According to Statistics Canada, the number of Canadians aged 55-64 jumped by 28 per cent in the five years prior to the 2006 census. With all these boomers about to enter their golden years, many of whom will no doubt be single and, yes, sexually active, we better start readjusting our attitudes if we don't want to be dealing with a raging HIV epidemic among the blue-rinse set.

Something to think about today on World AIDS Day.

For more facts about HIV/AIDS in Canada, visit my Sexcetera blog at metronews.ca.

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

You have a voice. Use it.

Need a safe place to share your opinions and learn important facts about HIV/AIDS in your community? **Visit us at preventaids.ca** and let your voice be heard. Participate in our blog and post your feelings, fears and frame of mind on a number of real life issues involving the prevention and management of HIV/AIDS.

Le conseil des africains et caraïbeens sur le VIH/SIDA en Ontario

African and Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS in Ontario

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Crack and meth are too readily available in Vancouver: Report

RESEARCH It's far too easy for drug users to get crack cocaine and crystal meth on the streets of Vancouver, according to a new report. Rates of new HIV infection, homicide and overdose also remain high, according to the Urban Health Research Initiative (UHRI). The 10-year study followed almost 2,000 illicit-drug users in Vancouver, some of whom are homeless.

Vancouver shares this problem with other large cities. "Throughout North America, particularly in the U.S., we have failed to address the combined problems of HIV and addiction," says Dr. Evan Wood, director of the UHRI at the B.C. Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS. The report found:

- Steep increases in the use of crack cocaine.
- Significant increases in crystal methamphetamine use, especially among street-involved youth.
- Remarkably easy access to drugs such as cocaine and crystal meth.
- High death rates among injection drug users due to long-term HIV infection.

It also found dramatic decreases in syringe-sharing, drug overdoses and the spread of infectious disease due to growth in supervised drug injecting sites.

CELIA MILNE/FOR METRO CANADA

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Treat HIV patients sooner: WHO

Advice could double number of people who qualify for drugs

People infected with the virus that causes AIDS should start treatment earlier than currently recommended, according to the World Health Organization(WHO).

The U.N. agency issued new guidance advising doctors to start giving patients AIDS drugs a year or two earlier than usual. The advice could double the number of people worldwide who qualify for treatment, adding an extra three to five million patients to the five million already awaiting AIDS drugs.

WHO's previous HIV treatment advice was published in 2006. Since then, several studies have shown people with HIV who start drugs earlier than recommended have a better chance of surviving.

WHO now advises doctors to start HIV patients on drugs when their level of CD4 cells — a measure of the immune system — is about 350. Previously they said doctors should wait until patients' levels hovered around 200. In most Western countries, doctors start treating HIV patients when their CD4 count is about 500.

David Ross, an AIDS expert at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, said there is compelling evidence HIV patients should start treatment sooner.

People with HIV who aren't on AIDS drugs are more likely to catch a potentially fatal disease like tuberculosis or develop other complications when they do start the drugs, Ross said.

WHO's new recommendations also advise pregnant women with HIV to take the drugs earlier and while breast-feeding. The agency also said countries should phase out the use of the commonly used AIDS drug stavudine because of its toxic side effects. If countries with large outbreaks adopt the guidance, many more people could live longer, healthier lives, said Hiroki Nakatani, a top WHO official in a statement.

DAVID GUTTENFELDER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An HIV-infected couple waits to receive medication at an HIV/AIDS clinic in Tinh Bien, Vietnam.

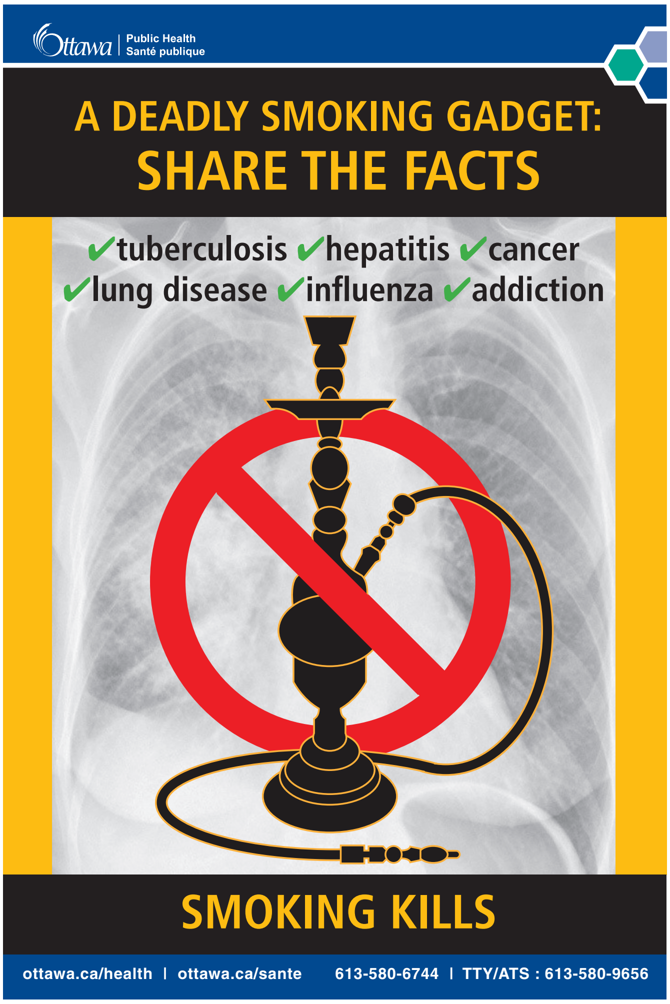
Still, WHO's advice raises questions about how countries and donor agencies will pay for the lifelong AIDS treatment.

It may also be difficult to convince HIV patients to start the drugs sooner, when some may not have any AIDS symptoms. Putting more patients on the treatment for a longer period of time could also encourage drug resistance.

Ross said many AIDS programs in Africa are already struggling. He added there were anecdotal reports of clinics turning away new patients eligible for treatment because they didn't have enough drugs to treat them.

Some experts said the new WHO guidance could add billions to the cost of global AIDS programs. "WHO may be biting off more than they can chew," said Philip Stevens, a director at International Policy Network, a London-based think-tank. "I'm not sure how this will be possible to achieve, other than by cutting lots of corners," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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ORAL CANCER AND LOOKING AFTER YOUR ORAL HEALTH DURING TREATEMENT

Cancer is certainly one of those topics we never want to discuss. Nonetheless, ignoring it does not make it go away. As dentists, one of the most important functions we can provide is to screen for oral cancer.

Our role as dentists in oral cancer detection is vital because no other health care practitioner will examine your mouth to the same extent as your dentist will. We certainly recommend that you also pay attention to any potential lesions in the mouth. But it can be difficult to get the appropriate angle to see inside your own mouth properly. That is why an oral cancer check with you dental check-up is vital.

The sad truth is that oral cancer goes undetected in many people for far too long. Studies show that over 25% of the people who are diagnosed with oral cancer will die, usually because of late detection. In fact, only 50% of those diagnosed will survive for more than 5 years! More people die from oral cancer than from cervical cancer or melanoma, yet those other types of cancer receive far more attention.

For those that survive, the surgical treatment can be very disfiguring. Having to remove cancer cells from the mouth and jaw area, unfortunately, can leave its mark. The longer the cancer was undetected, the larger the tumor. And that means a greater impact post-surgery.

**Dr. Martin LaBoissonniere
Dental Surgeon**

If you are diagnosed with oral cancer, or any other form of cancer for that matter, you should also be aware of the impact the treatment can have on your oral health. You will likely require chemotherapy as part of your treatment. Chemotherapy can cause problems in the mouth, such as sores, infections, dry mouth, bleeding of the gums and just a general sense of pain.

It is often recommended that you receive dental treatment prior to starting chemotherapy. A professional cleaning along with advice on oral care can be vital to help prevent some of the problems noted above.

One thing to remember is that proper oral health care while undergoing chemotherapy is vital. During treatment, your immune system will be suppressed leaving you more susceptible to developing infections.

Your mouth is an ideal host to multiple forms of bacteria. Failure to look after your oral health can allow that bacteria to grow and access your blood stream at a time you can least afford further health complications. Brushing and flossing is critical to reduce the risk of an infection starting in the mouth.

We hope you do not have to get to the point that you need to be concerned with chemotherapy. Prevention and early detection, as with any form of cancer, remains your best weapon. And early detection of oral cancer usually means regular visits to your dentist, at least twice per year. Because early detection is a healthy habit…and healthier habits lead to healthier lives.

*Dr. Martin LaBoissonniere
- Dental Surgeon*

Leggo my Eggo
Where have all the waffles gone? Eggos, the frozen waffle made by Kellogg, will be in short supply until the middle of 2010, it says. That's led to a mock mini-crisis in the United States, including the auction of frozen waffles on eBay. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES**

Food

'Cutting' to the chase

The newest memoir from Julie & Julia author Julie Powell hits book stores today. Cleaving: A Story of Marriage, Meat, and Obsession is Powell's account of a two-year extramarital affair she embarked on, its fallout and how she seeks refuge from it all by first becoming a butcher's apprentice and then searching out fellow butchers around the world. Full of culinary metaphors, the book shows how one woman's meat can sometimes be another's therapy. Cleaving is available at Chapters and Indigo stores across Canada for $29.99. METRO NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

LiquidAssets

Peter Rockwell

metronews.ca/liquidassets

After-dinner sippers

As much as I hate assigning a style of wine to a certain period of time, with winter approaching we have officially entered the season where port really shines.

Historically misunderstood thanks to the use and abuse of the name port by just about every country on Earth (including Canada); the real deal (which only comes from Portugal) makes for a warming after-dinner sipper and a great match with fruit, chocolate and cheese (especially blue varieties like stilton).

Made by introducing grape spirit to fermenting juice, port is typically sweet and is, for the most part, labeled by age. The most famous are vintage ports, but they're not meant for immediate drinking. That's put the spotlight on wines like **Taylor Fladgate's 1997 Late Bottled Vintage Port** ($24.29 - $26.01) which offers balanced flavours of ripe plum, nuts and caramel and is good to go right now.

Bottles such as **Warre's Otima 10 Year Old Tawny Port** ($22.95 - $34.02) are also meant for cracking not keeping. Its creamy mix of ripe berry fruit and toffee develop by blending wines from different vintages that have seen at least a full decade of aging.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.

Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words.

Grub to warm guests' bellies

Spiced nut appetizer and braised chicken with figs add festive flair

The fragrant aromas of apple cider, eggnog and hot chocolate have made their way into the city — signs that the holiday season has arrived.

While you pull out the ornaments and play jingle bells, you might be wondering what to serve for the many dinners you've no doubt planned for family and friends.

We have a delicious menu here that will warm your guests' bellies and look festive on the table. If company arrives early and more time is needed to set up seating or chill the wine, try serving our Brown Sugar and Chili Spiced Nuts mix to stave off hunger. This savoury and sweet assortment is not only a guaranteed favourite among friends, it's also easy to package as a seasonal favour or hostess gift.

Moving on to the main, our Braised Chicken with Figs and Olives sounds scrumptious and tastes even better. This recipe is easy and avoids the fuss of a meal with many sides. Orzo pasta does a great job of soaking up the chicken broth that is infused with the flavours of figs and olives. Couscous or mashed potatoes also make for great accompaniments.

For that end-of-meal sweet that you and your guests crave, try our classic shortbread recipe. This recipe is another great one to make for a party, hostess gift, cookie exchange or the family Christmas dinner. Enjoy hosting friends and relations this holiday season with these new recipes; they will definitely relish eating at your table.

- CHRISTY PENGILLY

CARLO MENDOZA

Braised chicken with figs and olives.

Brown Sugar and Chili Spiced Nuts

MAKES 4 CUPS
PREP TIME: 5 MINUTES
COOKING TIME: 25 MINUTES
RECIPE DEVELOPER: PAULA BOWMAN

INGREDIENTS:
- 1 large egg white
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- 1/2 cup of brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp cayenne powder
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 4 cups mixed nuts (pecans, walnuts, blanched almonds and/or cashews)

METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to 325F. Line a rimmed sheet pan with parchment paper and set aside.

2. Whisk egg white in a large bowl until frothy. Add chili powder, salt, cayenne and cinnamon and whisk until blended. Add nuts to bowl and stir well to thoroughly coat. Add sugar and toss until well combined. Transfer mixture to prepared sheet pan and bake in oven, stirring once, until golden brown and nuts are toasted and crispy, about 25 minutes. Let cool slightly before serving. Tightly sealed, nuts will keep for 1 week at room temperature.

Braised Chicken with Figs and Olives

SERVES 4
PREP TIME: 10 MINUTES
COOKING TIME: 30 MINUTES
RECIPE DEVELOPER: PAULA BOWMAN

INGREDIENTS:
- 8 bone-in chicken thighs, skin on, (about 3 lbs), (drumsticks will also work)
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1/2 cup diced white onion
- 1/4 cup white wine, or water
- 1 1/4 cups sodium reduced chicken broth
- 4 fresh figs, quartered

CARLO MENDOZA

Brown sugar and chili spiced nuts.

- 1/4 cup small green olives
- 1 cup uncooked orzo pasta
- 1 Tbsp unsalted butter
- 1 Tbsp finely chopped fresh parsley
- 1 tsp honey

METHOD:

1. Rinse chicken, pat dry with paper towels and season with salt and pepper. Heat oil in a large heavy bottomed skillet over medium-high heat. Working in batches, if necessary, add chicken and sear on all sides until golden brown, about 6 minutes. Remove chicken from skillet and pour off all but one tablespoon of fat from the pan. Return pan to stove set over medium heat, add onion and cook until starting to soften, about two minutes. Add wine, stirring to scrape any flavourful brown bits from the bottom of the pan, cook until wine is mostly reduced. Add chicken broth and return chicken to pan, skin sides up. Simmer set over medium-low heat, loosely covered until chicken is cooked through and sauce is slightly reduced, about 20 minutes. Add figs and olives let rest until figs are tender, about 3 minutes.

2. Meanwhile, cook orzo according to package instructions, in a pot of boiling salted water until al dente. Drain pasta, toss in butter and season with salt and pepper; set aside.

3. Transfer chicken to a serving dish, stir parsley and honey into sauce remaining in pan over medium heat and pour over chicken. Serve chicken alongside buttered orzo.

Holiday tips

- Check out the online Christmas Guide on 20minutesupperclub.com for recipe ideas and tips to help make your holiday events and dinners a hosting dream.

Classic Shortbread

MAKES APPROXIMATELY 36 COOKIES
PREP TIME: 15 MINUTES
COOKING TIME: 40 MINUTES
RECIPE DEVELOPER: PAULA BOWMAN

INGREDIENTS:
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 3/4 tsp kosher salt
- 1/2 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for rolling, if desired

METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to 325F. Line two rimmed sheet pans with parchment paper or silicone baking mats and set aside.

2. In a large bowl, using an electric mixer, cream butter, sugar, salt and vanilla together until pale and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Turn mixer off, add flour all at once and mix on low speed until dough is soft and starts to come together.

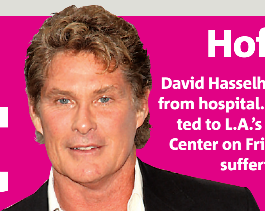
3. Form dough into a disk, wrap tightly in plastic wrap and chill in the refrigerator until firm, about 30 minutes. Roll the dough on a lightly floured surface to 1/4-inch thickness and cut with your choice of 2-inch cutter. Transfer cut-outs to prepared pans and bake until edges of cookies are just starting to turn pale golden brown, about 12-15 minutes. Transfer cookies to a wire rack and cool.

20 minute SUPPER CLUB

Boyle tops the charts

Susan Boyle's I Dreamed A Dream is the fastest-selling U.K. debut album of all time, with 411,820 copies moving in its first week. The album is also projected to go No. 1 this week in the U.S., Canada, New Zealand, Ireland and Australia. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Entertainment



Hoff hurt?

David Hasselhoff has been released from hospital. The star was admitted to L.A.'s Cedars-Sinai Medical Center on Friday after allegedly suffering a seizure.

FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

The spirit of Jacksoul

Haydain Neale worked on new album while fighting cancer

Haydain Neale died last week in Toronto, but not before he and his band Jacksoul finished work on SOULmate, which is out today.

GRAHAM ROCKINGHAM
for Metro Canada

Last May, after months of rehabilitation from a life-threatening head injury suffered in a traffic collision, Haydain Neale decided he was well enough to return to the recording studio. It was time to make another Jacksoul record.

Neale still had difficulty singing, but he had recorded some demo tracks of new songs shortly before being struck by a car on Aug. 3, 2007, while driving his Vespa scooter on a Toronto street.

Neale reviewed the tapes. His voice was solid. There was more than enough there to make a CD.

Neale assembled his bandmates in a Toronto studio, selected the 10 best songs and started building full album tracks around the vocal demos. Things came a little bit slower than before the accident, but he was in control, orchestrating every step of the production.

But it wasn't long into those sessions that Neale was diagnosed with lung cancer. It was a stunning blow, coming to someone who had already persevered through so much. And it seemed so unjust. He wasn't a smoker, according to friends, not even a drinker.

Neale chose to keep the diagnosis private and focus instead on the music. Only a few close friends and family were told, as the band continued working in the studio.

"It was definitely emotional," recalls keyboard player Ron Lopata. "We were brothers. We've been through a lot together. We've been on the road together. We've shared buses. We were a very close group of friends."

Last month, Jacksoul's record label (Sony Music Canada) announced the new album, SOULmate, would be released today.

Fans, unaware of the cancer diagnosis, were buoyed by the news.

Neale lived long enough to see the record to completion. But he died Nov. 22 in Toronto at 39, just 10 days before SOULmate's release.

Lopata — credited with Neale as co-producer of SOULmate — said he understood the singer's decision to keep his cancer private.

"Haydain's outlook was always positive," Lopata said. "He always felt 'I'm going to continue, I'm going to make music for as long as I can do it. I'm going to put my heart and soul into it ...'

"I think it was a matter that he didn't want (the cancer) to be a focus for anyone. He was always on the route for getting better and that was the focus."

The first single off the album is called Lonesome Highway. It was written before the scooter accident but eerily foretells of Neale's future struggles.

"You're going to hear a lot of amazing songs that now have more meaning than they did before," Lopata said. "You'll listen to it and say, 'Unbelievable, it's just like he's a fortune teller ...'"

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Quinte Mall

Kingston
Cataraqui Town Centre

A "tomboy" in Paris

Paris Hilton is a "tomboy." The socialite says that despite her glamorous, party-loving image, she has a secret active side and claims she is "totally different" away from the cameras. **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

She's such a Teese

Burlesque artist brings Paris show to DVD

TALIA SOGHOMONIAN
Metro World News

She spends much of her time out of them, but clothes are important to Dita Von Teese. They're an integral part of the burlesque superstar's character — both on and off stage.

As she gets set to launch a DVD of her show at the Crazy Horse in Paris, Von Teese speaks to Metro about life, lingerie and Louboutin heels…

Q Doesn't this DVD destroy the mystery of your Crazy Horse shows?

A I don't normally like having my shows filmed but I think we managed to transfer the feeling of the live shows to film.

Q Are there shots that could never be seen live?

A Crazy Horse are very private about what happens behind the scenes but we could show all that on the DVD.

Q In the DVD, you say that you wished you were 18 so you could have become a dancer at the Crazy Horse!

A Yeah! (Laughs) I'm obviously happy with the path that I've chosen. There's a reason that things worked out the way they did for me, but sometimes I wonder why I didn't fly to Paris and audition to become a Crazy Horse girl back in the old days!

Q You're writing a new beauty book?

A It's about encouraging and embracing eccentric beauty. Everyone wants to look natural and this is a book for girls that don't want to look natural!

Q The way you move, of course, is due a lot to your Christian Louboutin heels…

A Christian started off designing shoes for showgirls. More than any other shoe designer he has a real way with proportion and with making a foot look really feminine. I always feel that he completely understands what shoe I need and of course that flash of red sole is the height of glamour and is a distinctive symbol.

I feel that I have to wear Louboutins on stage. I love that flash of red that comes when I'm dancing.

Dita Von Teese's show at the famous Crazy Horse in Paris is coming to DVD.

DVD **picks**

Terminator Salvation

Director: McG

WHO'D EVER have guessed that we'd be missing the thespian nuances of Arnold Schwarzenegger or complaining about the coldness of a robot movie?

Terminator Salvation sadly lacks not only The Guvernator in his iconic role but also the humour and warmth that made earlier instalments (especially the first two) a genuine pleasure.

This one is more of a chore, and the story has become needlessly complicated. Woe to anyone going into this thing cold.

Set in 2018, just as machine overlord Skynet is wrapping up its job of subjugating humanity, it stars Christian Bale as John Connor, leader of the human insurgency against the robots. Bale attempts to impart the same sandpaper gravitas of his Batman character to Connor, but it's not as successful here.

More interesting is Sam Worthington as a death row convict who is unexpectedly inducted into Terminator lore.

It's a peek at the kind of work he'll do as the star of Avatar, coming to theatres soon.

Director McG is out of his depth with this kind of blockbuster, but he and his designers do bring a grim reality to bear — the blood-red eyes of the film's robots could haunt your nightmares.

Bring back Arnold!

There's a bucket load of extras, including a director commentary, numerous features and both the director's and theatrical cuts.

Peter Howell/for Metro Canada

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Fourth time's the charm for Tom Arnold
Tom Arnold took his fourth walk down the aisle on Nov. 29, when he wed Ashley Groussman in an intimate ceremony in Maui, attended by approximately 75 family and friends. **PEOPLE.COM**

Ode to a small Canadian prairie town

Actor Corbin Bernsen has learned two things: first, Saskatchewan in February is a really cold place to make a movie, and second, his latest film wouldn't have happened without a red paper clip and the people of a small Prairie town.

Bernsen's latest movie Rust, about a priest who undergoes a mid-life crisis of faith and returns to his hometown to heal, was shot in Kipling, Sask., which lies two hours southeast of Regina.

"It was like shooting at the North Pole," says the California native, perhaps best known for his role in the hit '80s television show L.A. Law. "It was freezing, but it created a beautiful look for the movie and exactly the feel I wanted."

The story of how Bernsen ended up with the Kipling as the backdrop to his film could itself be a movie. Back in 2005, Canadian blogger Kyle MacDonald bartered his way from a red paper clip to a house in a series of highly publicized online trades. One of the trades landed him with a limited edition KISS snow globe, which he then traded with Bernsen — an avid snow globe collector — for a role in Bernsen's film Donna on Demand.

A month later, he traded that movie role with the town of Kipling for a two-storey house there. So Bernsen headed to Kipling to hold auditions for the role in his film. After visiting the small prairie town, Bernsen was inspired to return a few years later to film his next movie, Rust, which he wrote with Kipling in mind.

"I fell in love with the town and the people there," he explains. "There's a simplicity there that appealed to me, and I think that's really what attracted me to the place."

In Rust, Bernsen's character must make sense of the aftermath of a tragedy — his childhood friend has confessed to burning down a house that has taken the lives of the family within.

Corner Gas star Lorne Cardinal, who plays a police officer in the movie, says burning down an abandoned farmhouse for the movie was cathartic. The farmhouse was where convicted pedophile Peter Whitmore abused two boys in 2006.

"One of the victims actually showed up for the burning of it," says Cardinal. "It was palpable energy for sure because everyone wanted to see it gone. It was a blight on Kipling. It was something that everyone knew about but didn't like to talk about."

Beyond the raw emotion, Cardinal says there was "a lot of great magic happening on the set." Among the locals cast for the film was a mentally challenged man named Lloyd Warner playing a key role. Some people even opened up their homes as sets, and local businesses donated equipment including heaters.

"I've never seen a town come alive like that before," says Cardinal. "Everybody was involved in it, everyone was doing their bit to fulfil their end and they did great. The on-camera performances were pretty great for people with no training."

Corbin Bernsen chose Kiping, Sask. as the location of his latest television movie, Rust, which premieres on Thursday, Dec. 5.

Brad Kearns, of Kipling Film Productions, says he still can't believe it all happened, adding there's a lot of excitement in the community for the film's premiere on Thursday. "That's a good thing. It's a good excitement," says Kearns, who also plays the fire chief in Rust.

"It so easy to have negative publicity on things these days ... this is a positive thing and I think people are really excited and happy. I think it's one of those 'feel good' things. It was a lot of work at the time and you pretty much have to say everybody pitched in some way or another," he adds.

But Bernsen says it was the community's faith that got the job done. "This is their movie, they did it," he says. "I just offered the opportunity. Without the people, it wouldn't have come together."

Rust will have its broadcast premiere on Dec. 5 and will re-broadcast it Boxing Day. Check local listings.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hasselhoff's ex arrested for DUI

LOS ANGELES David Hasselhoff's ex-wife has been arrested on suspicion of drunk driving in L.A.

The California Highway Patrol says Pamela Bach was pulled over on the night of Nov. 29 on Laurel Canyon Boulevard.

A breathalizer test allegedly indicated that her blood alcohol levels were at .14, that's .06 over California's legal limit of .08. She was booked at the LAPD's Van Nuys jail and released.

In 2007, Bach was charged with misdemeanour hit-and-run, but the charges were dropped when she agreed to pay minor damages to the woman whose car she hit.

She and Hasselhoff, who have two teenaged daughters, were married for 16 years until he filed for divorce in 2006. She appeared as a cafe owner in several episodes of Hasselhoff's popular TV series Baywatch.

Bach is scheduled to appear in court on Dec. 24.

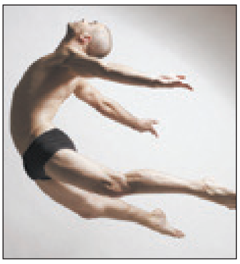
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DT	Vu	SC	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 12/1/09	265	353	2	TVO	Parks	Recreat. Eden	The Agenda With Steve Paikin		East West 101 (N)		The Virus Empire (N)		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	NCIS (HDTV)		NCIS: Los Angeles		Victoria's Secret Fashion		News Final
	-	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	La Facture	*La Brunante* (2008, Drame) Monique Mercure. (SC)				Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC)		La Zone (SC)
	209	342	6	CHRO	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	Monk		*Movie*				Comedy Now
	196	311	7	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance (HDTV) (N)				Law & Order: SVU		News
	208	303	8	CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes (N)	Being Erica (N) (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	The Biggest Loser (N)				The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	117	713	10	TVA	Les Gags	Occupation	Caméra café	Taxi 0-22 (SC)	Monk (HDTV) (SC)		TVA nouvelles	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	-	-	11	QS	Touche pas à mon fils		Les Anges millionnaires		Pratique privée "Ex-vie" (SC)		Wipe Out	L'Attaque à 5 (N)	
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama		Un monde de passions		*Le Vent de la nuit*				Méga constr.
	-	362	13	CBS	The Insider (N)	Judge-Brown	NCIS (HDTV)		NCIS: Los Angeles		Victoria's Secret Fashion		Two/Half Men
	216	395	14	OMN2	Family Guy	The Office	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Talk About It
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		The Biggest Loser (N)				The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	115	343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	218	345	18	CHCH	*A Night at the Roxbury* ★ (1998, Comedy) Will Ferrell.				*54* ★★ (1998, Drama) Ryan Phillippe, Salma Hayek.				News at 11 (N)
	-	361	20	ABC	Action News	Entertainment	Charlie Brown	Prep-Landing	Scrubs	Scrubs	the forgotten (HDTV) (N)		News
	512	396	24	CPAC	La Période de questions		Heure polit.	L'Heure politique (SC)				Revue	Période-quest.
	651	355	25	CTS	Little House on the Prairie		Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman		100 Huntley Street		Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	So You Think You Can Dance (HDTV) (N)				FOX 2 News (N)		News
	-	-	64	PBS	Business Rpt.	Ed Sullivan's Rock and Roll Classics: The 60s				Radio City Christmas Spectacular			Charlie Rose
	205	312	104	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance (HDTV) (N)				Law & Order: SVU		News
news	502	390	26	NW	Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)				CBC News: The National		CBC News: the fifth estate		National
	500	500	33	CNN	CNN Tonight (N)		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
sports	406	417	27	net	Best Damn Sports Show		UFC: Access	Overtime	The Ultimate Fighter (HDTV)		Sportsnet Con.	NHL Hockey	
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30	TSN	NHL Pregame	NHL Hockey Toronto Maple Leafs at Montreal Canadiens. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	410	403	52	SCR	NBA Basketball Washington Wizards at Toronto Raptors. (Live)					Court Surfing NBA news, scores and highlights.			Score Now
	411	457	56	OLN	Ghost Hunters International		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Survivorman		Ghost Hunters International		Bounty Hunter
	417	406	59	SC	Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Monster Jam (HDTV)		Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	Jacked!	Jacked!	Pass Time
family	554	544	48	TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	557	540	51	FAM	Sonny Chance	Zack & Cody	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	551	542	65	YTV	Drake & Josh	To Be Indie	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline Proj
cable variety	570	580	29	MM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		I Want to Work for Diddy		Entourage	Wild 'n Out	mmtop10.ca
	615	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		*True Lies* ★★★ (1994, Action) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Tom Arnold.				
	628	584	32	SPKE	UFC Unleashed		Ultimate Knockouts 3		Super Dave	Ultimate Knockouts 4		UFC Unleashed	
	521	560	34	TLC	Christmas Outside of the Box		Table for 12	Table for 12	18 Kids-Count	18 Kids-Count	Little Couple	Little Couple	Table for 12
	145	761	35	TV5	SIDA, paroles de jeunes		Pékin express				Avenirs	Hors série	TV5 Le Journal
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		*Recipe for a Perfect Christmas* (2005, Romance-Comedy)				Bones		NCIS
	620	523	40	BVO	At the Concert Hall		Freddie Mercury		Nureyev (N)		General Idea: Art, AIDS		Law & Order
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		How It's Made	How It's Made	Destroyed	Destroyed	Time Warp (N)		Daily Planet
	575	583	43	CMT	Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Wilsons
	601	562	45	SLC	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Bulging Brides	Bulging Brides	ET Canada
	625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Jeff Dunham	Blue Collar TV	Daily Show
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Law & Order: SVU		House-Payne	House-Payne	*Striking Distance* ★★ (1993, Suspense)		
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	HGTV's Top 10	Design Inc.	Pure Design	Genevieve	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		*The Blair Witch Project* ★★ (1999, Horror)				InnerSpace (N)
	581	566	53	MTV	Peak Season	After	The Hills	The City	From The Hills to The City		The Hills	The City	Hills-City
	618	524	54	TROP	'70s Show	'70s Show	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	Switch	Family Guy	'70s Show	'70s Show
	522	506	55	HIS	Ancient Discoveries		Cities of the Underworld		Cities of the Underworld		Ultimate Engineering		Crime Stories
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies "Hilary Swank"		Mayday "Des Signaux confus"		Images-chocs		Les Procureurs		Leçon d'anat
	261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Hallelujah!	Dinnerladies	Quantum Leap (Part 2 of 2)		Unscripted (N)	I Prophesy	Poltergeist
	602	567	62	W	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Beauty	Style by Jury	How to Look Good Naked		10 Years
	269	350	70	APTN	Fish Out	Mixed Blessing	Cashing In	Rabbit Fall	Blackfly	Moose TV	Rez Rides	Moccasin Flats	Short Cuts
	621	527	71	TLK	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (HDTV)		TMZ
	603	561	95	FN	Ricardo	Exotic	Restaurant Makeover		The F Word (N)		Good Eats	Good Eats	Iron Chef Am.

critics'corner

Nureyev

If anyone ever asked Rudolf Nureyev, "So you think you can dance?" it's obvious what the answer would have been. Nico Archambault, season one winner of "So You Think You Can Dance Canada," steps into the ballet legend's slippers for this film, which recounts Nureyev's life through the medium he loved — dance. Greta Hodgkinson plays Nureyev's longtime dance partner and friend, Margot Fonteyn. 9 PM on 40 BVO



NCIS

This case hits close to home, but they'll have to go far from home to solve it. When an NCIS agent is killed, Gibbs and company venture into the desert in search of a woman who holds the key to finding the killer in "South by Southwest." 8 PM on 13 CBS 3 GTV

Freddie Mercury: A Kind of Magic

Freddie Mercury was one of a kind, and this documentary captures the life and career of the Queen frontman, who died in 1991 of AIDS-related pneumonia. Known for his flamboyant onstage persona, he was the subject of plenty of rumors about his private life. 8 PM on 40 BVO

K'naan releases 'Wavin' Flag' video

TORONTO K'naan — the Somalia-born, Toronto-raised hip-hop artist — has released a new video for his remixed version Wavin' Flag that will serve as the official song of the FIFA 2010 World Cup.

Wavin' Flag was originally featured on K'naan's second studio album Troubadour, which came out earlier this year. The track will be used in television commercials and online to promote the World Cup, which will take place in South Africa next summer.

The new version of the track features revised lyrics with a new focus on soccer, with lines such as: See the champions take the field now/ Unify us, make us feel proud.

It's a considerably more upbeat tune than The Time of Our Lives, the Toni Braxton-Il Divo ballad that was the official song for the 2006 World Cup.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kenya'sStyle
Kenya Hunt
Exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle

Witherspoon and Gyllenhaal still together

Despite reports to the contrary, Reese Witherspoon and Jake Gyllenhaal are still very much a couple, according to their reps. Although a source close to the couple says their relationship has ended, people.com reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

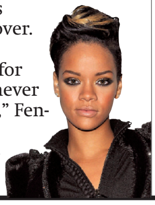
Celebrity Buzz

Gervais robbed of $400,000 in cash

POOR RICKY Fraudsters stole more than $400,000 from Ricky Gervais using a photo of his Office character, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The funnyman has revealed criminals took the huge amount of money from his bank account and tried to buy gold with it. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Rihanna giving dad cold shoulder

FAME WILL DO THAT TO YOU Rihanna's estranged father, Ronald Fenty, is looking to reconnect with his famous daughter, especially now that her ordeal with Chris Brown is over. "I leave messages for her but I never hear back," Fenty says. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Michael Lohan is alive

BUT WE'RE PRETTY SURE HE HAS NO SOUL LEFT Michael Lohan doesn't exactly have a history of verbal restraint, so when a Twitter account named @themichaellohan began writing snippets about family drama and wanting to jump off of the Brooklyn Bridge, entertainment bloggers across the web figured it was the real deal, popeater.com reports.

Thankfully, it seems the Tweets — like the one that read: "fiance just left me. my family hates me, i spent Thanksgiving with my mom i just cant do any of this any more" — were all bogus, and the father of Lindsay Lohan is still with us, the website adds. Gossip blog Shabooty quickly cleared everything up, as they purportedly received an email from a very alive Michael Lohan disputing the Twitter posts.

"This is not not not me. I do not have and never had a twitter and twitter's corporate office confirms that," Lohan allegedly wrote to the gossip site. **METRO NEWS SERVICE**

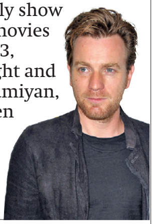
Brangelina headed to split?

WHO KNEW THERE WERE ANY UNTOLD STORIES LEFT? The days of Brangelina may be coming to an end, according to one writer who says that a Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie split could be coming "within 18 months, probably sooner."

"I talked to several people in Brad's family who wished they'd break up today," author Ian Halperin tells Page Six. "They're going to split amicably, work out some kind of arrangement with the kids, and everything will be very civilized. Then you're going to see unidentified friends leak stories how Angelina couldn't put up with Brad's partying and drinking and his pot smoking," says Halperin, author of Brangelina: the Untold Story of Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. **METRO WORLD NEWS**

McGregor fine if kids see nudity

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT Ewan McGregor isn't embarrassed about his children seeing his nude scenes, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The actor — who has stripped in many of his movies, including Trainspotting — insists he will happily show all of his movies to Clara, 13, Esther, eight and adopted Jamiyan, eight, when they get older. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Berry cashing in on property buy

NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE Halle Berry is doubling up in the property market, selling off the Hollywood hideaway she bought in 2001 for more than twice what she paid for it. **METRO WORLD NEWS**

Celebrity tweets

Karl Rove draws the line somewhere, Benji Madden is trying guide the English language, Demi Moore encourages older woman to think sexy, and Pink isn't sure a workout really happens if there's no one around to see it.

- @KarlRove it is a matter of conscience for me that I cannot wear a Snuggie.
- @benjaminmadden I am now Deeming the next decade the 2 10's. if it catches on you will all remember my name. If doesnt you will forget i ever twittered this
- @Pink when i walk in2 a hotel gym and its completely empty, it makes me sorta feel like I don't actually exist. seems really wrong. weird.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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The Weather Network
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Today
Rain or snow showers
60%
4° / -2°

Wednesday
Variable
5° / 2°

Thursday
Rain
80%
6° / -2°

TAKE THE WEATHER WITH YOU
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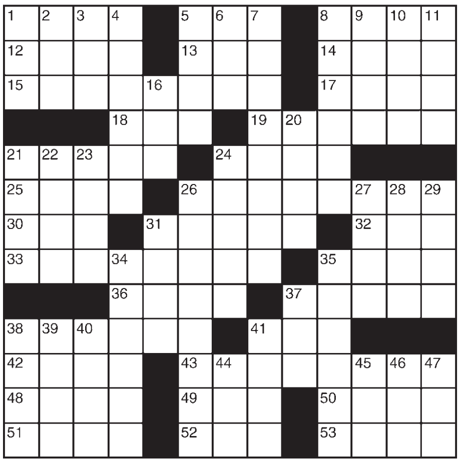
The Weather Network

Take Five

For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: **metronews.ca/food**



ACROSS

1 Platter
5 Upper limb
8 — mater
12 Concept
13 Kiwi's bygone kin
14 Bathday cake?
15 Petula Clark classic
17 Dorothy's destination
18 Acorn maker
19 Window in a roof
21 Take as one's own
24 Pop flavor
25 Mr. Crockett
26 Distinguishing trait
30 Corroded
31 Old Aegean region
32 Greet the villain
33 Price reduction
35 Chorus member
36 "The Audacity of —"
37 Sweater type
38 Historical records
41 Feedbag tidbit
42 Volume
43 City building
48 Needle case
49 Leading lady?
50 Falco or Adams
51 Lairs
52 Sprinted
53 Run into

DOWN

1 Accomplished
2 Altar affirmative
3 Stitch
4 Four-poster feature
5 Out of control
6 Tier
7 Guitar's cousin
8 Religious retreat
9 Weaver's apparatus
10 Jerry Herman heroine
11 Unoriginal one
16 Make lace
20 Earthen pot
21 Partner of 49-Across
22 Information
23 Finished
24 "— talk?"
26 Shaq or Kobe, e.g.
27 Competent
28 Campus mil. program
29 Eccentric one
31 Pedestal occupant
34 Light-colored uniforms
35 Country song?
37 Forefront
38 Sleeping
39 Memorandum
40 Common subject?
41 Actor Clive
44 Eggs
45 Citric cooler
46 Tell a tale
47 Allow

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

		4	7		1		9	
8		1	9	6		4		
	5						3	1
3			6		7		2	4
	1			5			6	
2	6		8		9			3
5	8						1	
		2		9	6	3		7
	7		1		3	2		

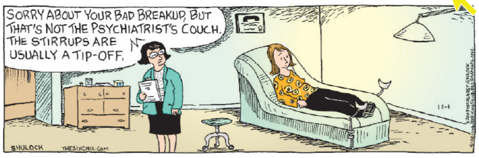
PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

P	E	P	■	A	B	A	C	A	■	P	E	A
D	A	S	■	S	E	N	O	R	■	R	U	M
Q	U	I	C	K	L	I	M	E	■	I	R	E
■	■	■	A	F	L	■	M	O	R	M	O	N
E	M	P	L	O	Y	■	A	L	O	E	■	■
V	I	A	■	R	U	G	■	E	A	T	E	R
E	R	N	S	■	P	O	D	■	D	I	M	E
N	A	T	A	L	■	D	E	F	■	M	I	S
■	■	O	G	E	E	■	R	O	B	E	R	T
D	A	M	S	E	L	■	I	R	A	■	■	■
I	I	I	■	W	I	N	D	C	H	I	M	E
A	R	M	■	A	T	R	E	E	■	V	O	L
L	Y	E	■	Y	E	A	R	S	■	Y	A	M

5	7	3	8	2	1	9	6	4
4	1	2	3	9	6	7	8	5
6	9	8	7	5	4	2	3	1
8	2	4	6	7	3	1	5	9
3	5	9	2	1	8	6	4	7
7	6	1	5	4	9	8	2	3
2	8	5	9	3	7	4	1	6
1	3	7	4	6	2	5	9	8
9	4	6	1	8	5	3	7	2

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca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SHULOCK
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12-1

Metro Recipe of the Day

Farfalle with Broccoli and Anchovies

INGREDIENTS:

14 oz (400 g) farfalle
2/3 lb (300 g) broccoli florets
1 3/4 oz (50 g) can anchovy fillets, drained
2 tbsp (25 ml) 1% milk
2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
4 large garlic cloves, crushed
Small bunch of fresh parsley, chopped
1/4 tsp (1 ml) crushed chili flakes
1 1/2 tbsp (20 ml) unsalted butter

To serve
Grated Parmesan cheese

METHOD:

Cook pasta according to pack instructions. Remove thick stalks from broccoli florets, then slice in half or quarters for smaller florets. Add to pasta for final minute of cooking. Reserve about 6 3/4 tbsp (100 ml) of cooking water, then drain pasta and broccoli thoroughly.
2. Meanwhile, soak anchovies in milk 5 minutes to remove salt. Drain, then chop.
3. Heat olive oil in warm pasta pot and add chopped anchovies, garlic, parsley and crushed chili flakes. Stir over medium heat 2 minutes.
4. Add pasta and broccoli to pot with reserved cooking water. Toss gently and season with ground black pepper. Add butter and toss until melted. Turn into warmed serving bowls and serve immediately with Parmesan cheese.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Pasta la Vista! +3 Original Recipes
Reader's Digest
Oh, No! Aislin Does Ottawa!
The New Face of Environmentalism
Beyond Blue

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
What's going on in your private life is making you a little bit jumpy, not least because you find it so hard to predict what is going to happen next.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Something you hear in passing could benefit you enormously, but only if you have the courage to follow up what you learn with swift and direct action.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Later in the month, when the Sun changes signs, you will get the chance to do something you have been waiting to do for years.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
As Uranus, planet of the unexpected, turns direct in your fellow Water sign of Pisces today there will be surprises galore – and all of them good.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
If ever there was a right time to impress partners and loved ones and even people in positions of power that time is now.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
If you need to sit down and talk through certain issues with partners and loved ones now is the time.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You may be in inspired form, but no matter how fast your mind is working you are advised to wait a while before trying to turn ideas into reality.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
You will learn something to your advantage over the next 24 hours, but it will only remain to your advantage if you keep the information to yourself.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Anyone who thinks they can trick you into doing something that is not in your interests obviously does not know you too well.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Step back from a situation that is causing you sorrow and ask yourself how important it really is to you.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Too many of the people you have dealings with today will talk and talk some more without actually telling you much of what you need to know.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Uranus, planet of genius, turns direct in your sign today and that is a hugely positive omen. It will certainly open your mind to new ideas.

TAKE A BREAK FROM WORK

Visit metronews.ca to watch
metrotube of the day

Today in history

1913: The Ford Motor Company introduces the first moving assembly line.
1919: Lady Astor becomes first female member of the British Parliament to take her seat (she had been elected to that position on November 28).
1981: The AIDS virus is officially recognized.
1982: At the University of Utah, Barney Clark becomes the first person to receive a permanent artificial heart.
998 – Exxon announces a $73.7 billion US deal to buy Mobil, thus creating Exxon-Mobil, the world's largest company.

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Star Trek	**MOVIE B**
Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince	**MOVIE C**
The Hangover	**MOVIE D**
X-Men Origin: Wolverine	**MOVIE E**
Angels & Demons	**MOVIE F**
District 9	**MOVIE G**

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2 for 1* sale

*2nd passenger pays applicable taxes and fees.

Santa Clara

Sol Cayo Santa Maria • 3 1/2★
All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Jan. 17 & 31 • 1 wk.

1st passenger	2nd passenger
$1349	$0
+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $212 Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally	+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $212 Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

Meliá Las Dunas • 4★
All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Jan. 10 • 1 wk.

1st passenger	2nd passenger
$1399	$0
+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $212 Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally	+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $212 Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

Puerto Vallarta via Toronto

Crown Paradise Club: A Family Resort • 4★
All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Jan. 3 - 31 • 1 wk.

1st passenger	2nd passenger
$1649	$0
+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $283	+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $283

Los Cabos via Toronto

Barceló Los Cabos Palace Deluxe • 5★
All-Inclusive • Junior suite
Jan. 9 & 16 • 1 wk.

1st passenger	2nd passenger
$1899	$0
+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $285	+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $285

Jamaica

Sunset Beach Resort & Spa • 3 1/2★
All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Jan. 2 & 9 • 1 wk.

1st passenger	2nd passenger
$1799	$0
+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $265	+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $265

Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort & Spa • 4★
All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Jan. 2 & 9 • 1 wk.

1st passenger	2nd passenger
$1799	$0
+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $265	+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $265

More Great Deals

These offers are not part of the 2 for 1 sale

DEAL to EUROPE

London
Royal National Hotel London • 3★
Breakfast • Standard rm.
Jan. 19, 20 & 21 • 4 nts.
$547
+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $400

DEAL to CRUISES

Princess Cruises[1]
Caribbean Princess
Southern Caribbean Cruise
San Juan via Montreal
Interior stateroom, cat. KK
Jan. 17 • 1 wk.
$1189
+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $237

OCCIDENTAL HOTELS & RESORTS ROYAL CLUB

Punta Cana via Toronto
Occidental Grand Punta Cana • 4★
All-Inclusive • Royal Club luxury rm.
Jan. 5 - 7 & 11 - 26 • 1 wk.
$1299
+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $317
Price based on Tues. & Wed. departures

Aruba via Toronto
Occidental Grand Aruba • 4 1/2★
All-Inclusive
Royal Club luxury oceanview rm.
Jan. 16 & 17 • 1 wk.
$2199
+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $244

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